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## HITESH MEHTA FASLA FRIBA FAAK Associate AIA Destination Planning Bio - Dec 2021

Hitesh is a Destination Physical Planner, Landscape Architect, Architect, Interior Architect and is a multi-International award winning planner and designer with Awards in Landscape Architecture, Planning, Architecture, Urban Design, Creative Writing and Interior Design. He is considered by his peers as one of the world's leading authorities, practitioners and researchers on sustainable tourism/ecotourism physical planning and both the landscape architectural and architectural aspects of ecolodges. Hitesh has over 34 years' experience, having worked and consulted in 65 countries on six continents.

Hitesh has vast experience in Destination Physical Planning and has worked on Sustainable Tourism Plans for destinations in Timor Leste, NW Bali; Western Uganda; Mayaguana Island, Bahamas; West Caicos; Western Kenya; North and South Madagascar; Virunga Massif in Rwanda and DR Congo; Red Center in Australia; Nankun Mountain in China etc., Hitesh's firm **HM Design** is currently working on environmentally and socially friendly Destination Planning projects in Galapagos and Liberia.

Hitesh Mehta is one of the founding members of the Global Ecotourism Network and was the longest serving Board member of The International Ecotourism Society. He is currently a Board member of The International School of Sustainable Tourism in Cavite, Philippines. He is also an author of three books, including "Authentic Ecolodges" by world renowned publisher - Harper Collins.

In July 2006, National Geographic Adventure magazine identified Hitesh as one of five Sustainable Tourism Pioneers in the world mainly because of his Master Planning work to protect endangered habitat and alleviate human poverty. He has been featured / interviewed / mentioned in over 195 international magazines, newspapers, books, newsletters and blogs. Mr. Mehta is also an Adjunct Professor, a Professional Photographer and a Hall of Fame Cricket Player from Kenya.