



LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE | ARCHITECTURE | ECOLOGE DESIGN | ECOTOURISM PLANNING | PHOTOGRAPHY

HITESH MEHTA

Resume

Mr. Mehta is 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. He is probably the only design professional in the world to be inducted as a **FELLOW** in three different continents - American Society of Landscape Architects (ASLA), Royal Institute of British Architects (RIBA), England and Architectural Association of Kenya (AAK), Kenya - and in two different professions - Landscape Architecture and Architecture. In 2015, Mr. Mehta was the recipient of *United Nations* (UNEP/GFHS) "**Outstanding Achievement Award**" for his work with alleviating poverty and protecting sensitive ecosystems. In July 2006, *National Geographic* identified Mr. Mehta as one of five Sustainable Tourism **Pioneers** in the world.

Mr. Mehta has thirty-four years of work experience, consulted in sixty-five countries (spanning six continents) in the world and is a multi-International award-winning designer with Awards in Landscape Architecture, Planning, Architecture, Urban Design, Creative Writing and Publishing, and Interior Design. Mr. Mehta's firm **HM Design** (which began in Kenya in 1991) is currently working on environmentally and socially friendly projects in Galapagos, Philippines, Mexico, Kenya, and Dominica. He has vast experience in Protected Area Physical Planning and has worked on Sustainable Tourism Plans that protect the last remaining endangered species such as Mountain Gorillas in Rwanda; Tigers in India; Giant Pandas in China; Jaguars in Costa Rica; Galapagos Shark; Bali Starlings etc.

Mr. Mehta regularly conducts research on Ecotourism and Ecolodges and is the author and photographer of the award winning **Authentic Ecolodges** (launched by *Harper Collins* in November 2010). He is currently working on **Authentic Ecolodges- Volume 2**. Mr. Mehta is also the editor of the **International Ecolodge Guidelines** and the co-author of the chapters on "Site Planning" and "Architectural Design". He was the longest serving Board Member of The International Ecotourism Society (sixteen years) and was an on-site inspector for the *National Geographic* Unique Lodges of the World program.

Mr. Mehta has a distinguished history in academia and is currently an Adjunct Professor at Florida International University (FIU), University of International Corporation, Costa Rica and VATEL Hotel and Business School, Madagascar. He has been the External Examiner for the Dept. of Landscape Architecture, Jomo Kenyatta University of Agriculture and Technology, Kenya for five years. He was also the Chairman of Landscape Architecture Section, Department of Architecture, University of Nairobi and conducted studios in sustainable planning and design for five years. Mr. Mehta conducts one-of-a kind Ecoplanning and Design Workshops and Charettes around the world and which are attended by academicians, practitioners etc. Mr. Mehta is a well-sought out speaker and has presented at over 198 Conferences/Seminars/Public lectures/webinars in thirty-six countries across all six continents.

Mr. Mehta is also a *Professional Photographer* and a Hall of Fame / ex- Cricket Captain from Kenya. In July 2005 he was named by **Men's Journal**, a New York based Magazine as the "**25 Most Powerful People in Adventure**" in the world. He has been featured / interviewed / mentioned in over 196 international magazines, newspapers, books, newsletters and blogs.

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