## "Authentic Ecolodges as a driver for poverty alleviation"

**Hitesh Mehta** 



# A STORY



**Once upon a 1980....** 

ALTO MA

## Hitesh Mehta to lead in historic 3-day 'Test' CRICKET

#### By ZOEB TAYEBJEE

Nairobi Gymkhana allrounder Hitesh Mehta has been named to lead Kenya against Pakistan "B" in a first ever three-day Test between the two countries starting at Nairobi Gymkhana today (11 a.m.)

His deputy will be Tom Tikolo who led against Pakistan in the two one-day internationals last weekend.

The full team named by the joint committee of the Kenya Cricket Association and Nairobi Province Cricket Association is: Hitesh Mehta (captain), Tom Tikolo, Tariq Iqbal, Daniel Mac-Donald, Bharat Shah, Alfred "Boy", Njuguna, Sibtain Kassamali, Naguib Verjee, Cleophas Udoyi, Zahoor Sheikh and Asif Karimu. Maurice Odumbe is the 12th man.

Times of play on all three days:







Qasim Omar ... professional

#### Sibtain Kassamali ... all-Hitesh Mehta ... captain rounder A major treat, results aside

#### By ZOEB TAYEBJEE

If every defeat is viewed as a stepping stone to success, then cricket fans are in for the treat of the decade - Kenya's first three-



Cricket correspondent ZOEB TAYEBJEE knows it is overambitious to hope for a Kenya

bounds. The team And yet Kenya is cricketing nation.

This Test is t truth. It may be landmark in the h cricket.

### Anderson Ndwiga



Source: Internet

## DH DIARY

- MARKINGS REFLECTIONS IN POETIC FORM OF HIS DAILY CHALLENGES
  TRYING TO STRENGTHEN THE UNITED NATIONS
- EVERY NIGHT, HE WOULD RETREAT TO HIS STUDY AND WRITE HIS EXPERIENCES
- BETTER THAN DIARIES OF ANN FRANK AND CHE GUEVARA!



Source: Internet



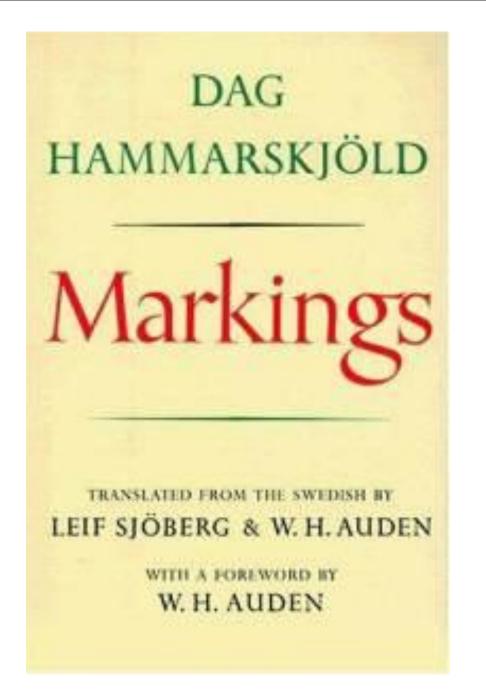


Source: Internet

John F. Kennedy called Hammarskjöld "the greatest statesman of our century".









### 46 Countries - 6 Continents







### AUTHENTIC ECOLODGES



Hitesh Mehta

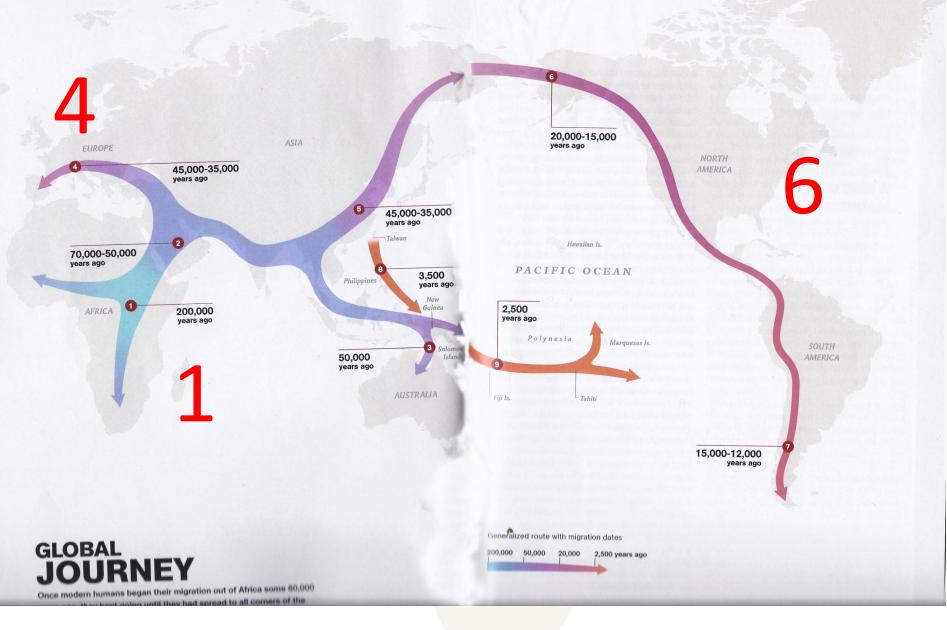
#### Anderson Ndwiga 1960-2005





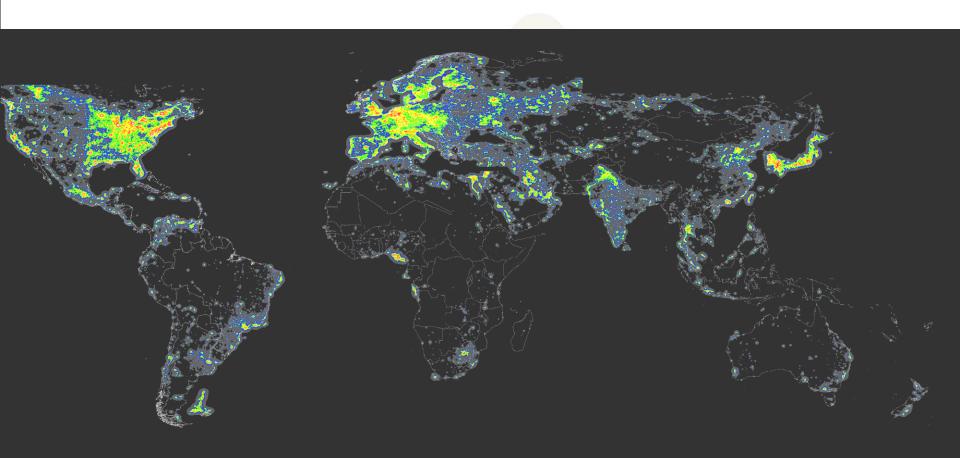
## THE CASE



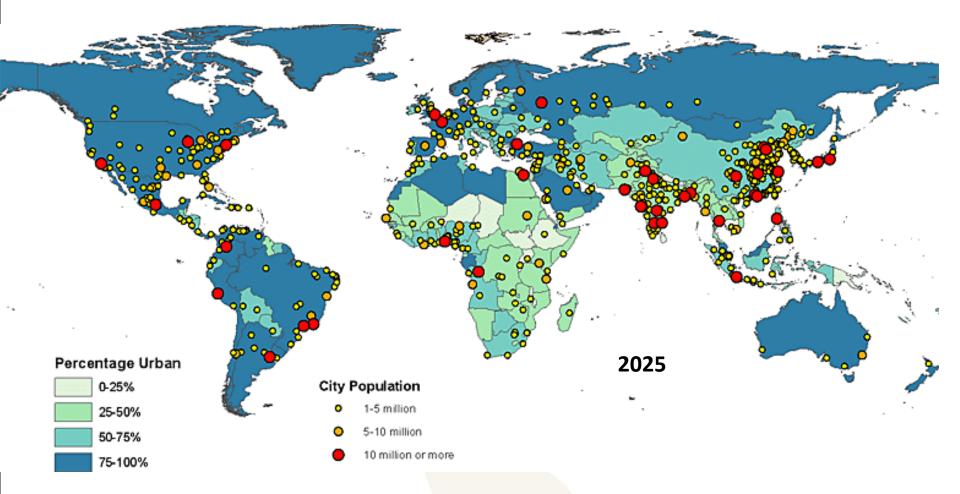


Source: National Geographic January 2013









**Source:** United Nations, Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Population Division: *World Urbanization Prospects, the 2011 Revision*. New York 2012



### **United Nations Statistic**

• Since 2009, more people live in urban areas than rural.

• By 2050, 70% of the world's population will be living In urban areas!

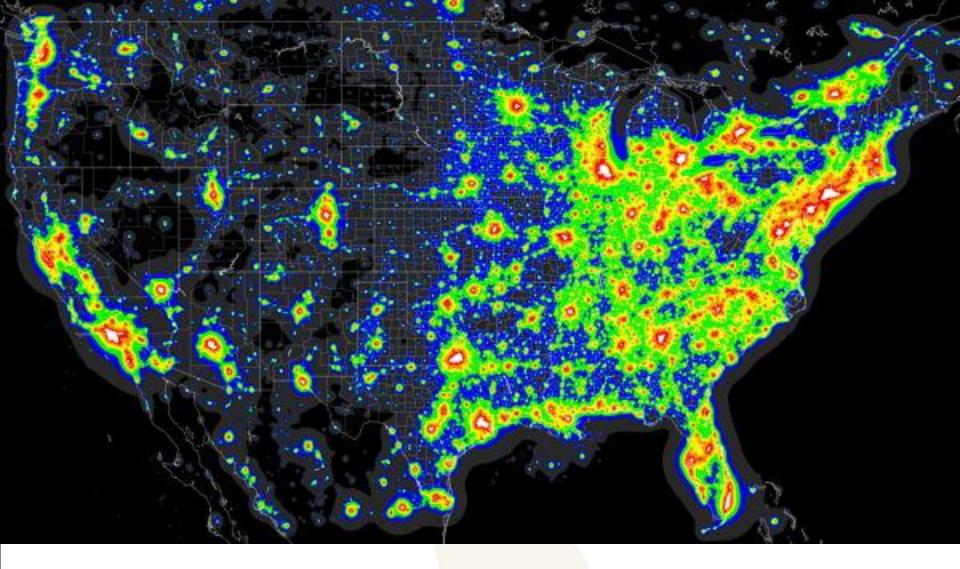
World Urbanization Prospects: The 2011 Revision



#### Weasner's Light Pollution Map



Weasner's Light Pollution Map



#### Nasa Map



### SOBERING FACTS FROM UN!

- By 2050, the world population is expected to increase to 9.3 billion (United Nations, 2012).
- At the same time, the population living in urban areas is projected to gain 2.6 billion, passing from 3.6 billion in 2011 to 6.4 billion 2050. (United Nations, 2012).
- Population growth is becoming largely an urban phenomenon concentrated in the 'developing' world (David Satterthwaite, 2007).









### **The GREAT STALL of China!**

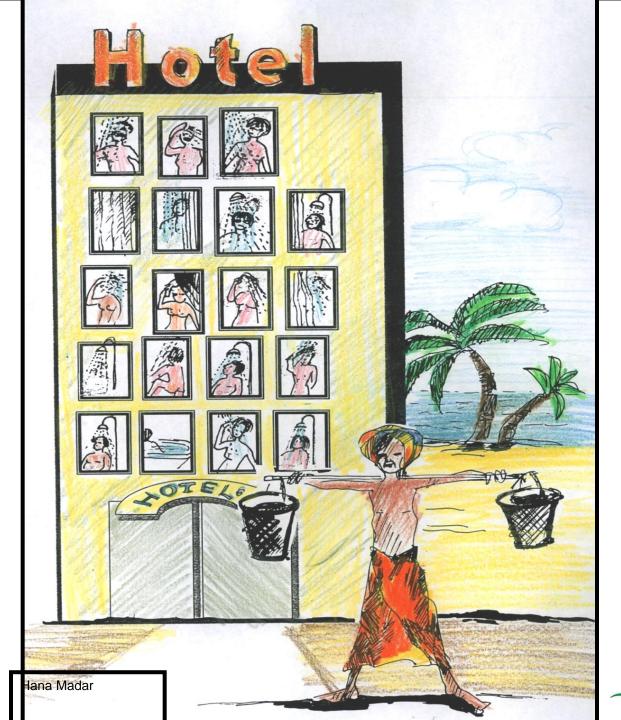
### The RAPE of a Mangrove Forest!

## ALDO LEOPOLD

'We will continue to abuse and disrespect nature if we regard it as a commodity that belongs to us, rather than as a community to which we belong.'





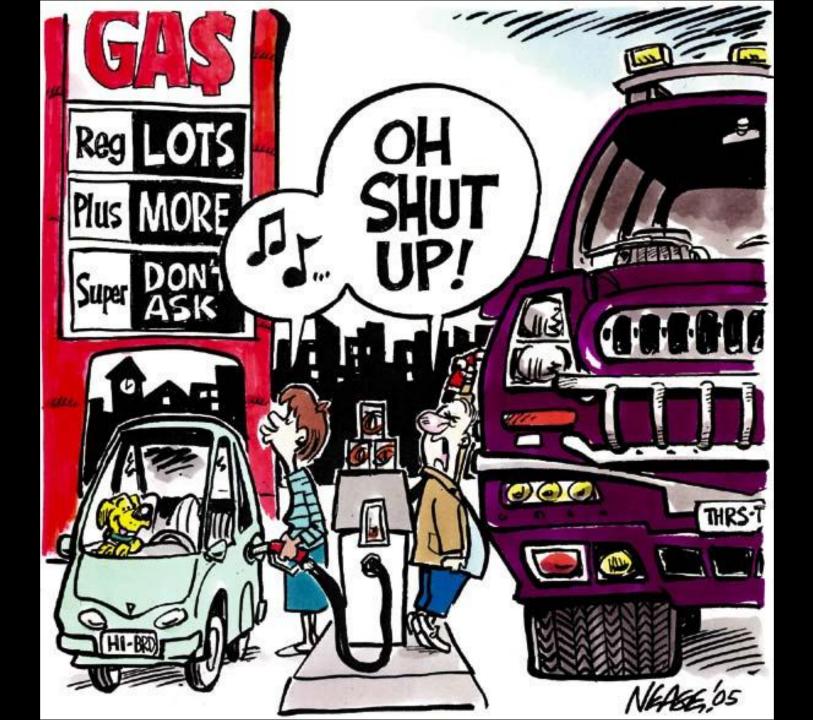






New York Times, Jan. 2013





### The FLOATING LAS VEGAS'S of the World!



### TRENDS IN AIR TRAVEL Has increased dramatically ! (6x in 40 years)



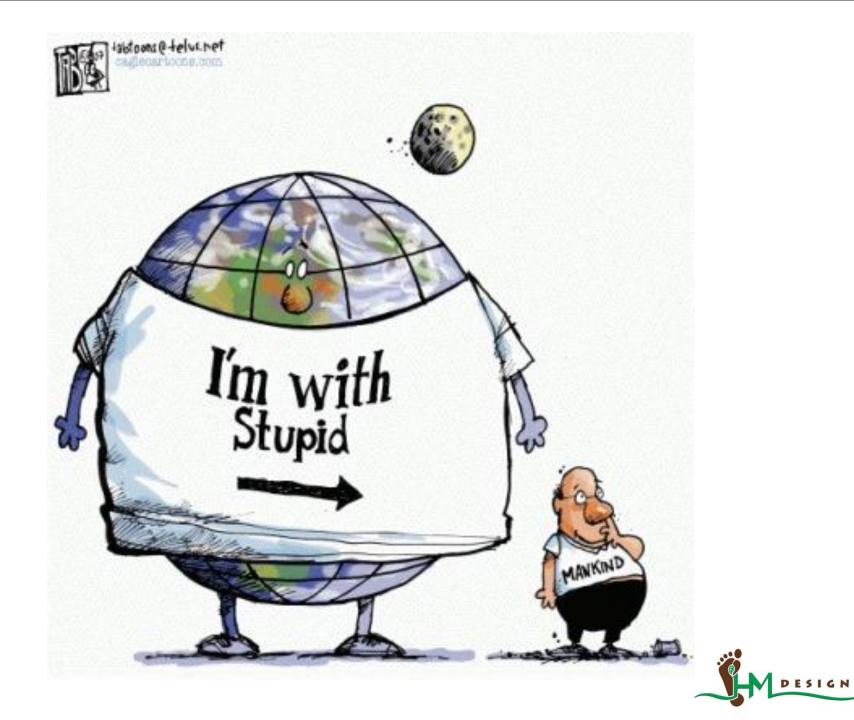
Only 10-15% of humanity have ever flown ! Energy-saving technologies cannot keep up with this pace.

# UN AGENDA 21

"Humanity stands at a defining moment of history; we are confronted with a perpetuation of disparities between and within nations, a worsening of poverty, hunger, ill-health, and illiteracy and the continuing deterioration of ecosystems upon which we depend for our well-being. "







# FROM UN! -AFRICA

- Due to continuing high birth rates (just over five children per woman) and comparatively lower death rates (life expectancy at birth is 56 years), the population of Africa continues to grow at a faster rate than any other continent on this tiny fragile planet.
- Sub-Saharan Africa has 21 of the 30 most 'poorest' nations in the world.





1 Onio

#### Population: 1.1 Billion

Growth rate: >5%















### RURAL URBAN MIGRATION

The urban population of sub-Saharan Africa is growing at an astonishing pace. Today approximately 350 million people live in urban settlements in the region. According to UN projections, that number will triple in the next few decades, reaching over 1.1 billion by 2050.

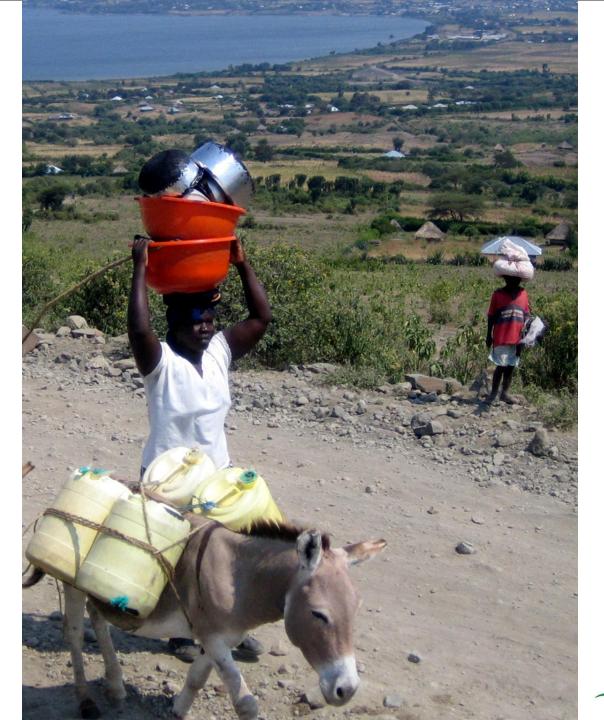






















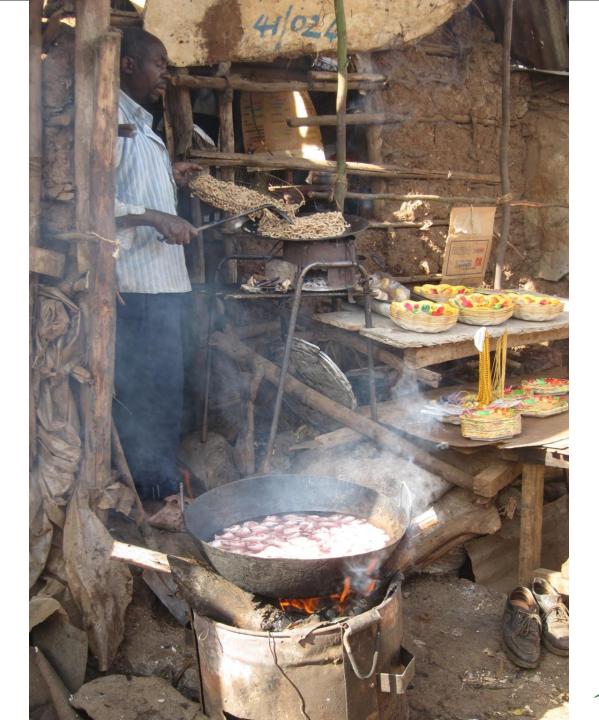
### URBAN LIVELIHOC

 For millions, living the red lights dream is as far removed today as it was 30 years ago.
 Many urbanites in Sub-Saharan Africa still live for less than \$1 a day.

















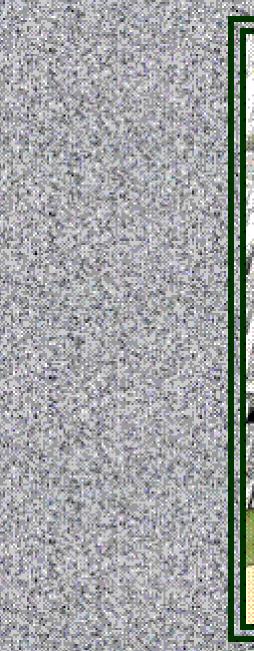


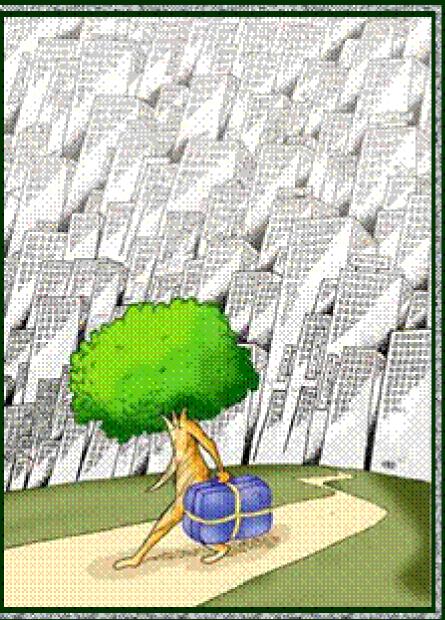
## MORE SOBERING FACTS!

- Nigeria, Africa's most populous country at 180 million, is expected to grow to 730 million by century's end, making it larger than Europe's projected population of 675 million.
- Lagos has now become the most populated City in Africa with 21 million and it will be the 3<sup>rd</sup> most populous city in the world by 2020.









### RURAL PEOPLE & LAN

- It has been observed by scientists that African rural landscapes are constantly in transition due to threats posed by climate change, mining, roads, logging and recreational demands of tourists.
- Some of the biggest headaches for local governments are those areas that are bordering protected natural areas which have high densities of human populations.

















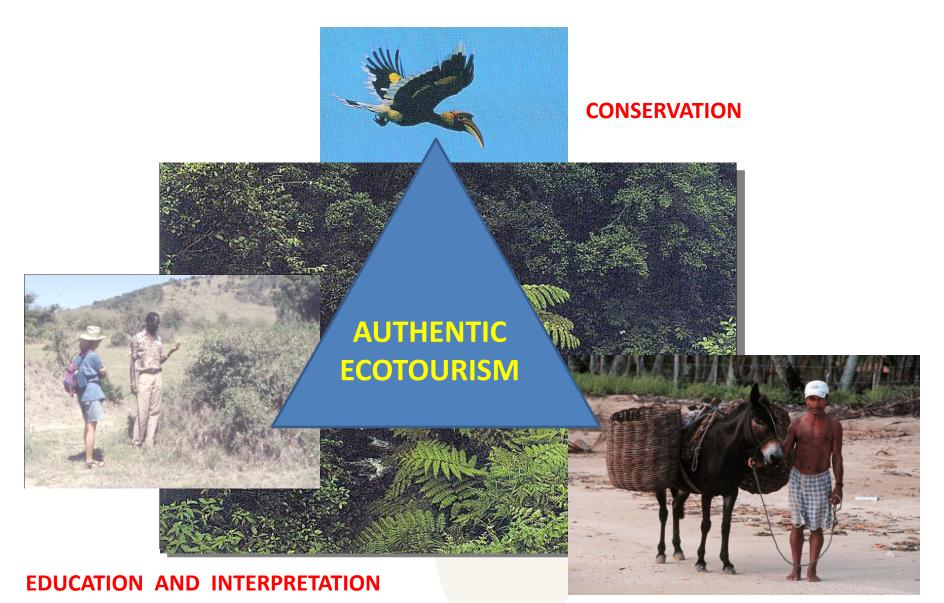






## ECOTOURISM & AUTHENTIC ECOLODGES







IGN









### What is an

### authentic ec lodge?

### ECOLODGE CRITERIA + RATING All three below + Any two from below

- Protection of nature
- Benefits to local people
- Provides interpretation

- Community planning
- Contextuality
- Environmentally friendly materials
- Waste management
- Sewage treatment
- Energy conservation
- Water saving
- Sustainable Construction



### ECOLODGE DEFINITION -2004

An ecolodge is a 2-75 room low-impact nature based financially sustainable accommodation facility that helps protect sensitive neighboring areas; involves and helps benefits local communities; offers tourists an interpretative and interactive participatory experience; provides a spiritual communion with nature and culture, and is planned, designed, constructed and operated in an environmentally and socially sensitive manner".

#### HITESH MEHTA





#### Crosswaters Ecolodge













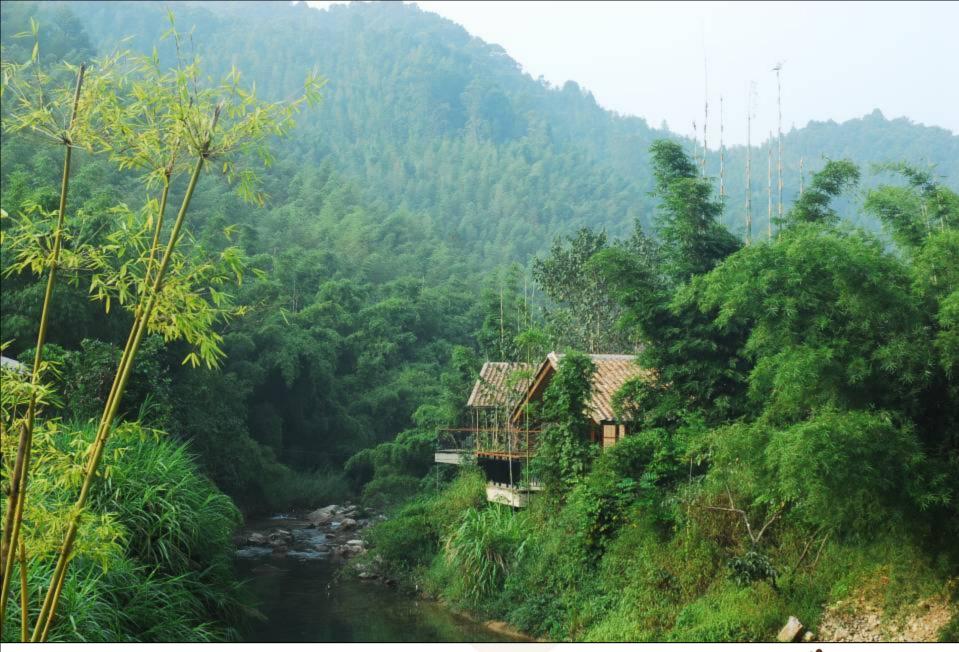












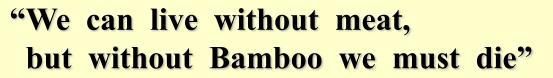




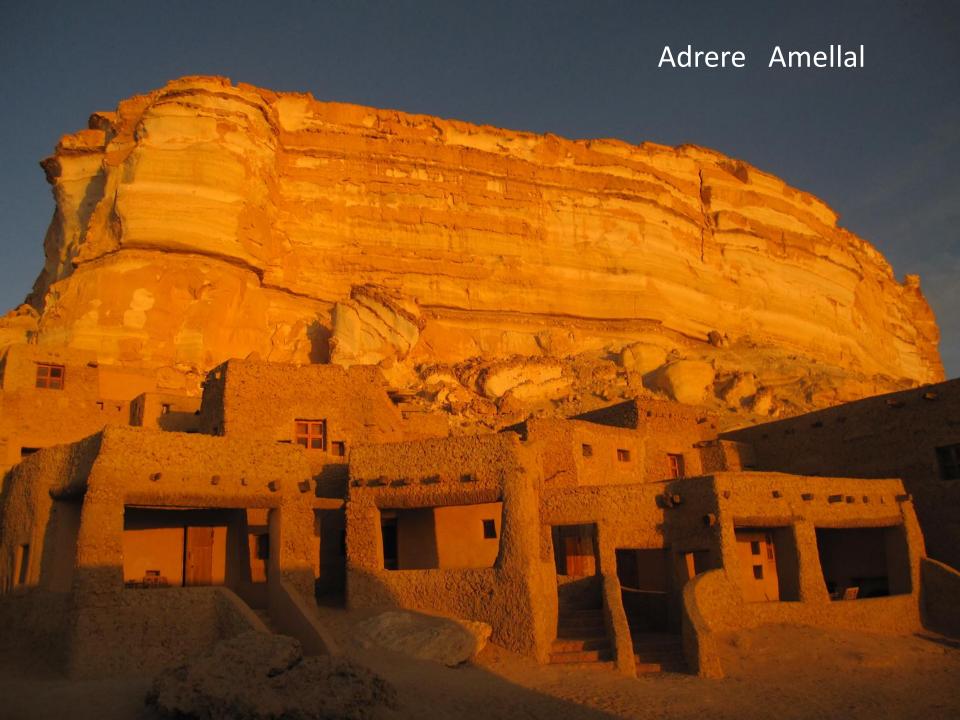








Confucius







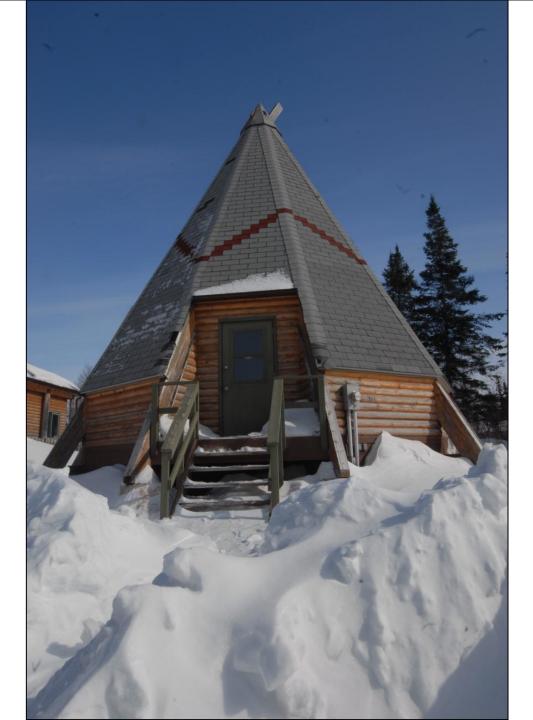
# JOHN KEATS

'The poetry of the earth is never dead.'



#### Il Ngwesi Ecolodge

#### Cree Village Ecolodge









#### Jalman Meadows Camp



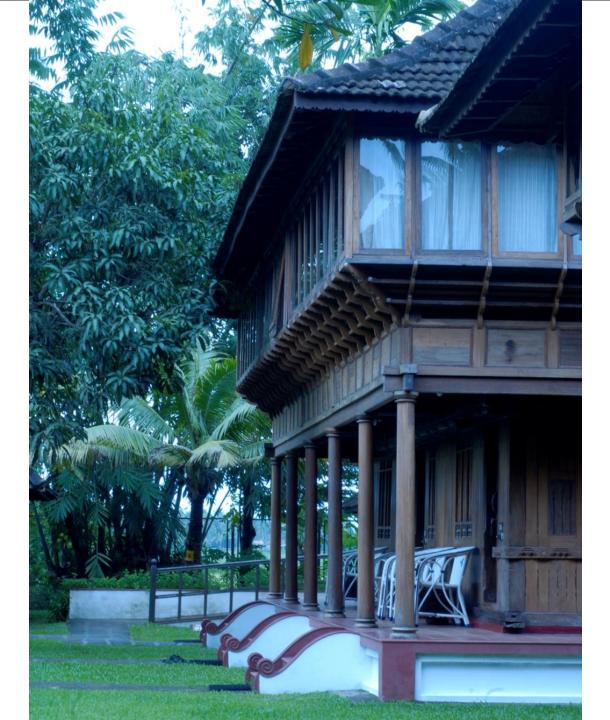




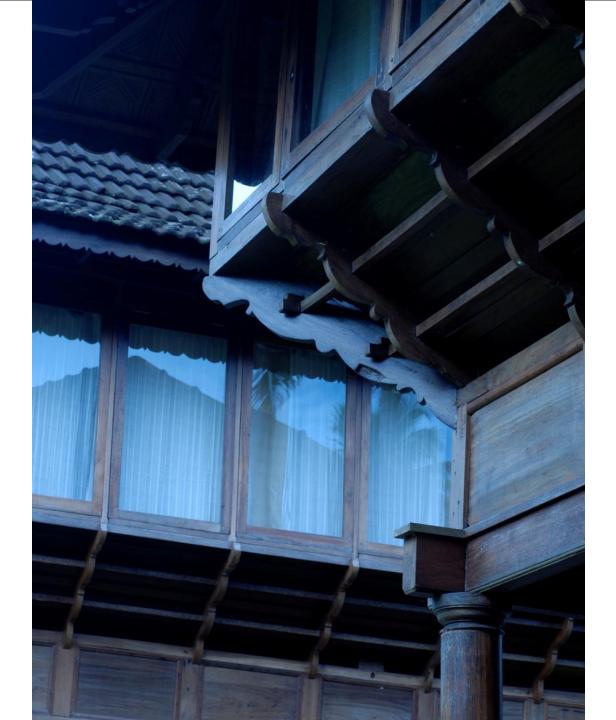








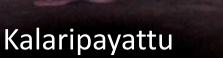












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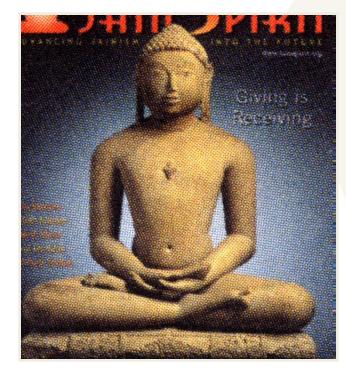
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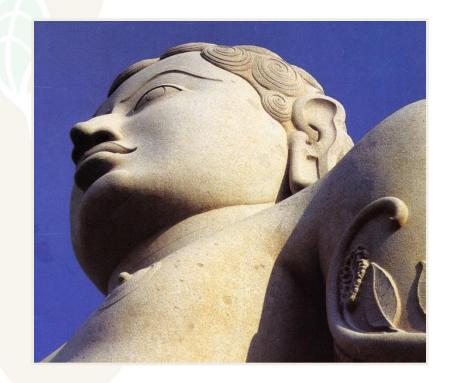
## WORK AND PHILOSOPHY



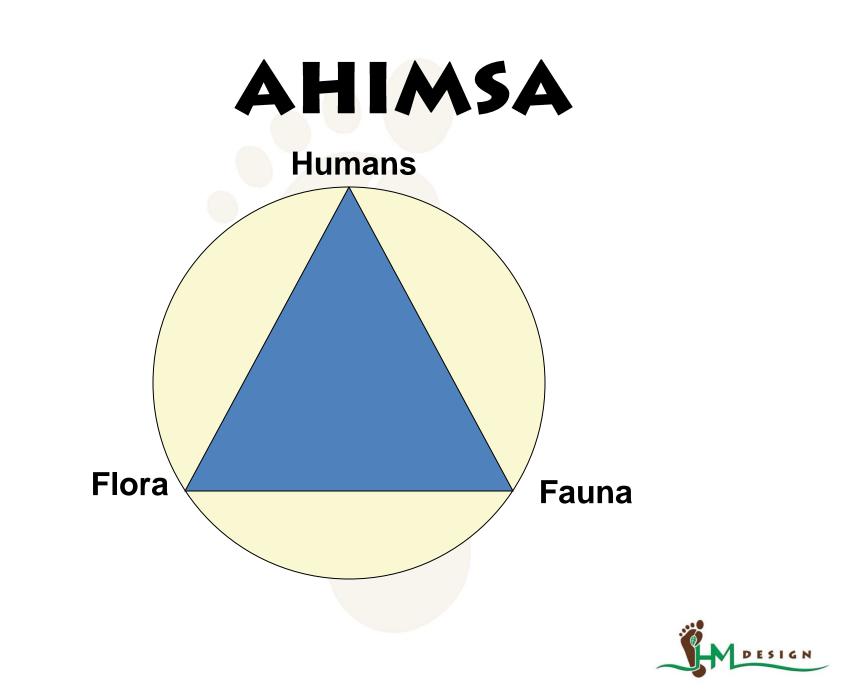
## AHIMSA

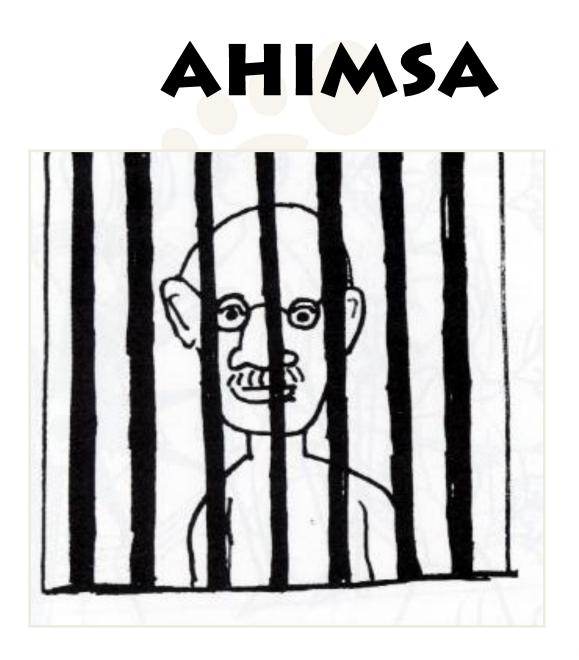
#### non-violence: Allowing a living group to flourish.



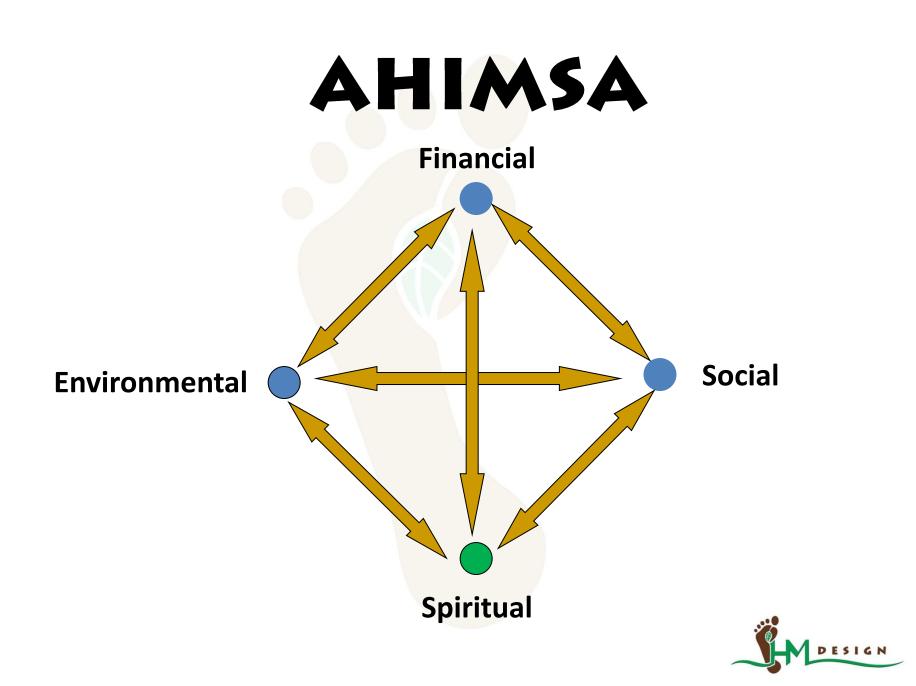












## COMMUNITY EMPOWERMENT THROUGH PARTICIPATORY



























# FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT

'The test of our progress is not whether we add more to the abundance of those who have much; it is whether we provide enough for those who have too little.'



## CASE STUDY 1 - AWF ECOLODGES



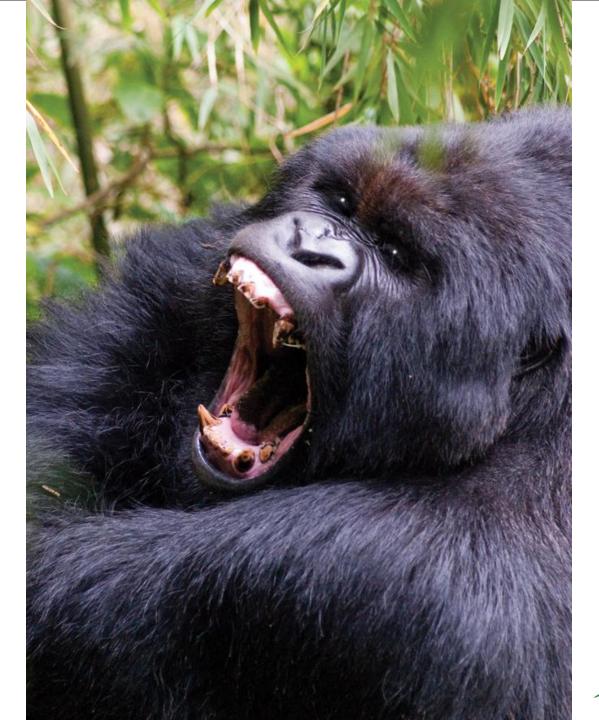






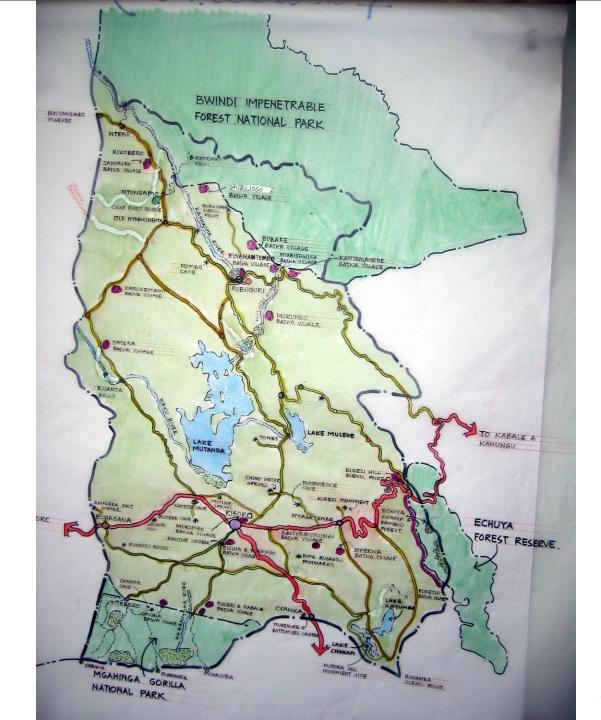




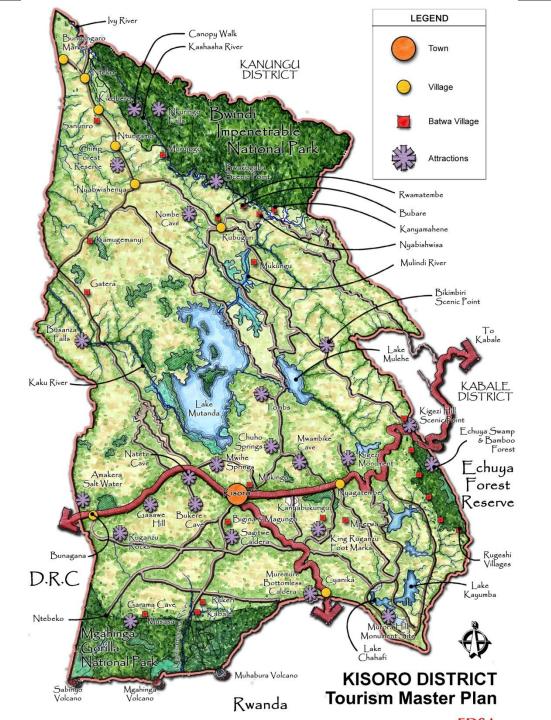




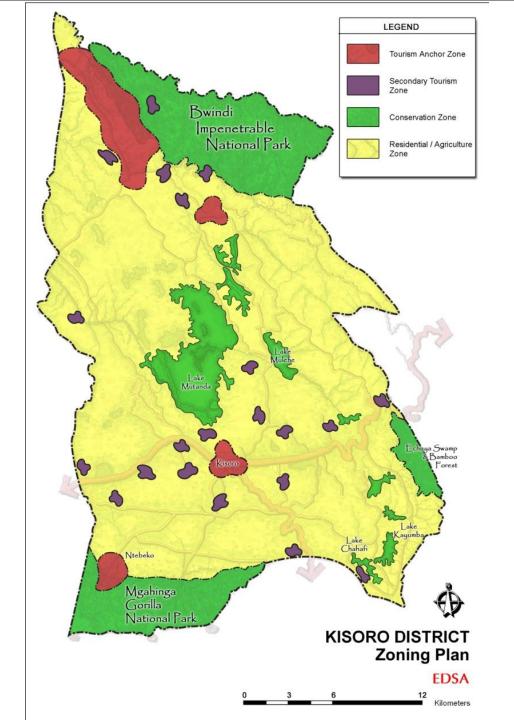




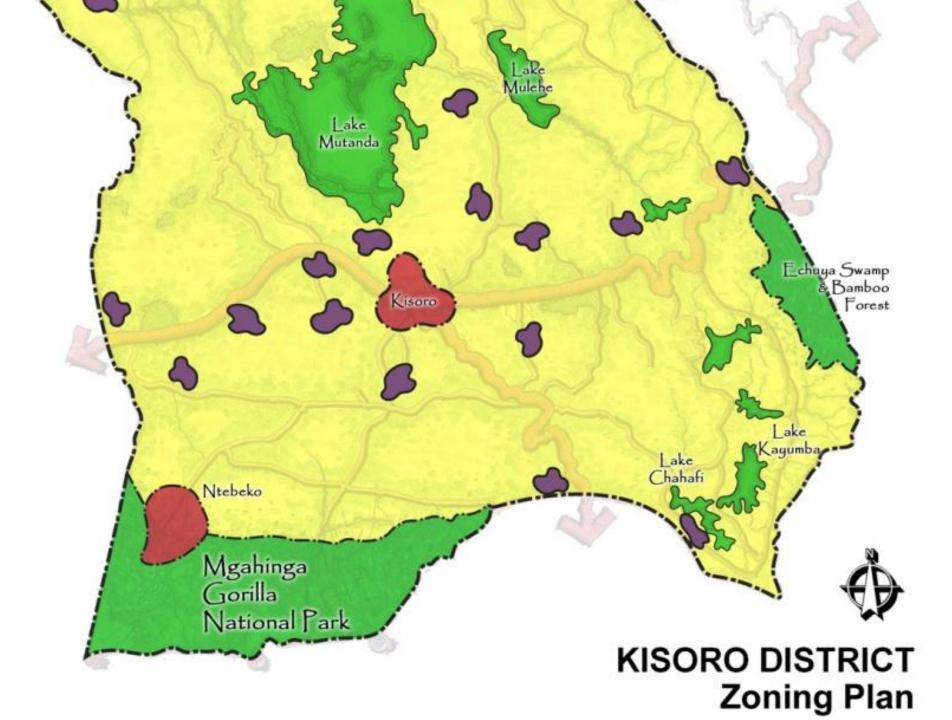
















Gigezi Scenie Point

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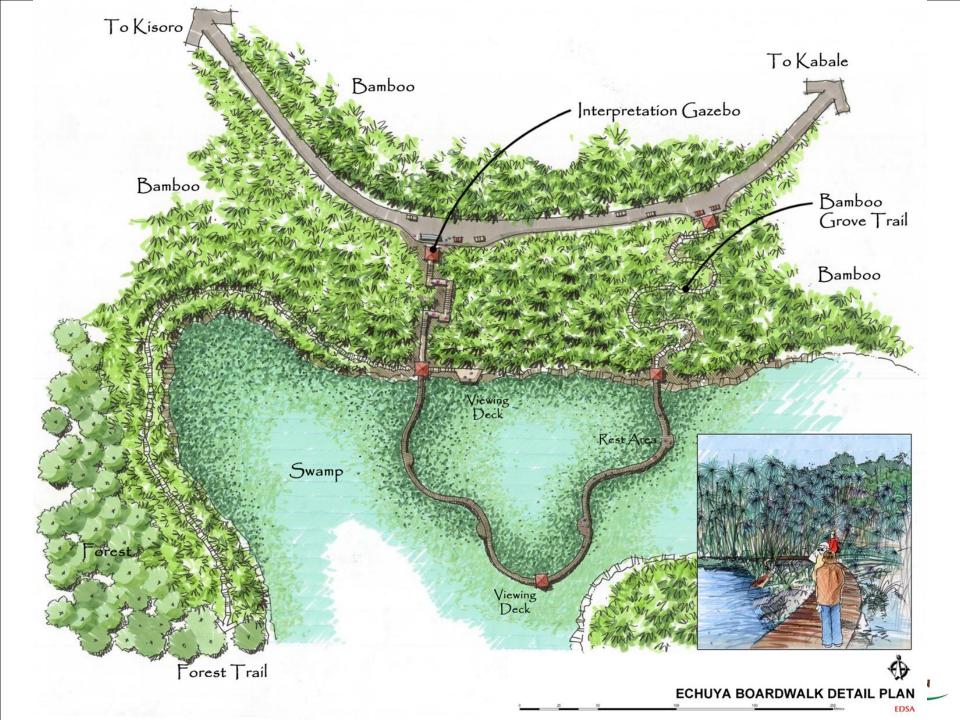
ndigenous Forest

Arudarania Alpina)

ndígenous Forest

Echuya Swamp

















### SACOLA

### Sabyinyo Community Livelihoods Association

Community based income generating projects:

- Women's basket weaving cooperative,
- Local cultural center and community walk.
- Funding through Lodge accommodation fees, a portion of which goes directly to the community association.
- Beekeeping
- Honey production

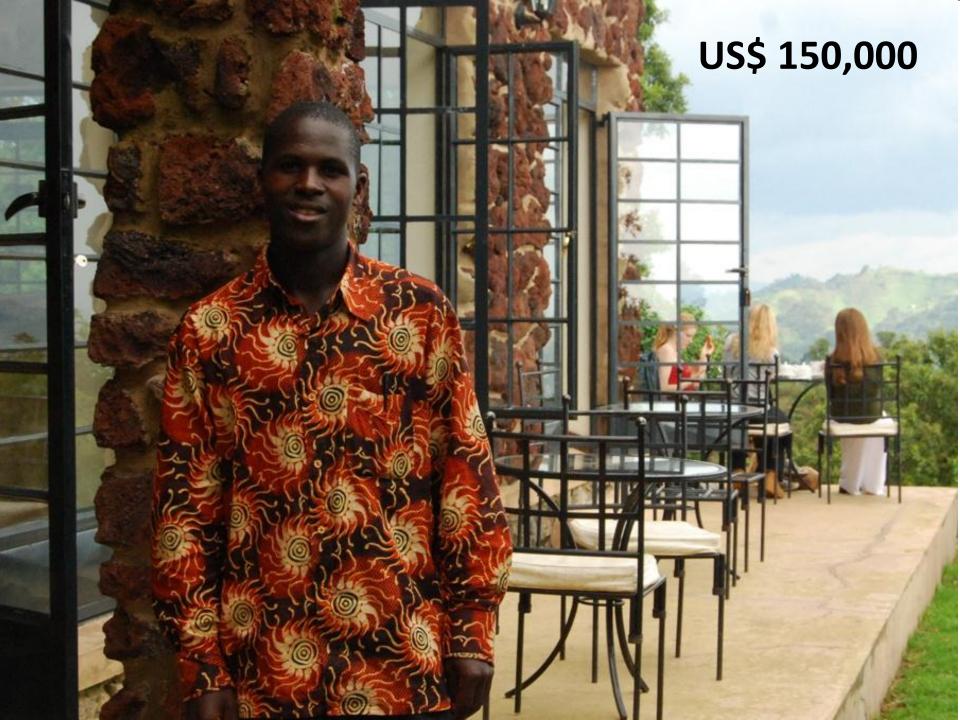


**Clouds** Mountain Ecolodge

Rentration formente

manina interation -

1



#### 30,000 people in over 23 villages

. . . .



### CASE STUDY 2 -NIHIWATU LUXURY RETREAT



















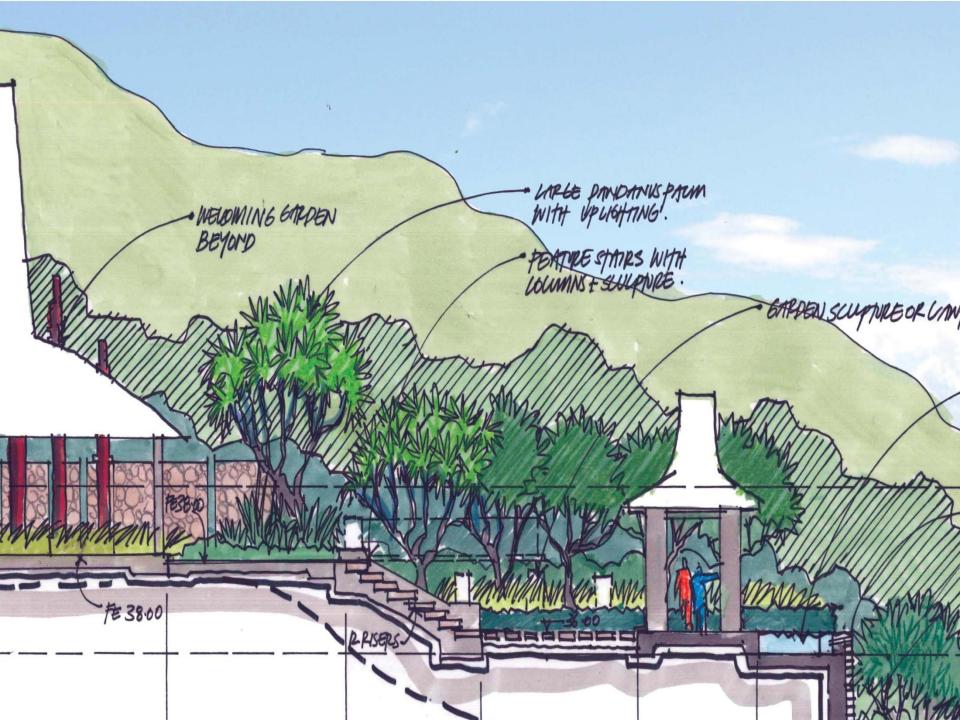




























9,000 have been treated and provided with free mosquito nets.

60 wells supply clean water to 20,230 people and 16 schools in 205 villages.







#### \$4.9 million



More than 20,000 people in 400 villages have benefited from free malaria testing





286 infants and children have been saved from malariarelated deaths at the five foundation clinics.



# WHAT NEXT?

 A reforestation project that is planting 15,000 teak trees a year. Each season the nursery distributes some 5,000 saplings to 30 families that have joined the project.

• With the first harvest in 2025, they may share in income distribution of as much as \$3.5 million each year.



## CASE STUDY 3 -KWANARI ECOLODGE



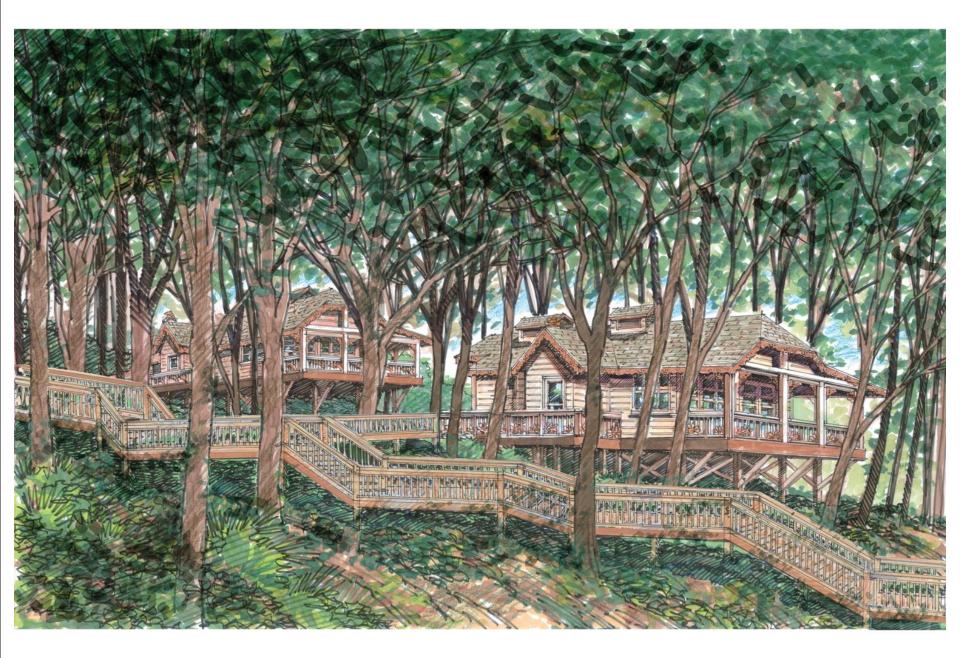


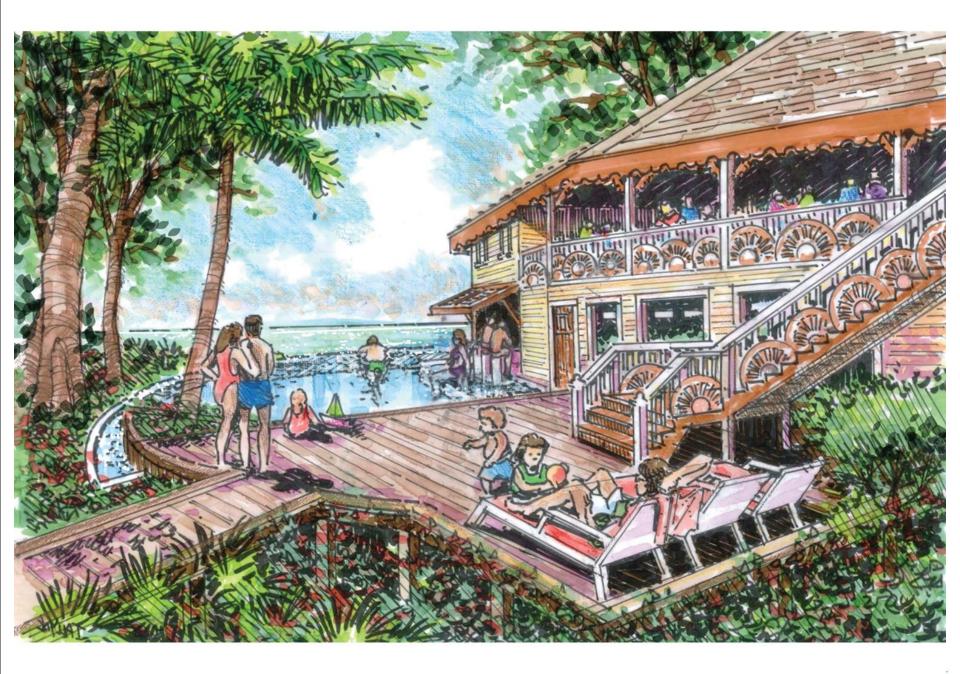




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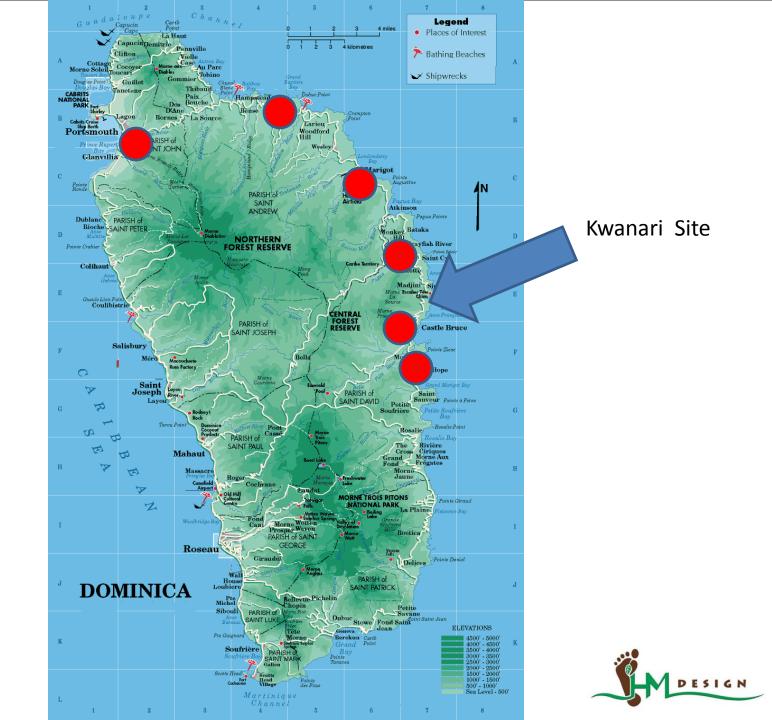






















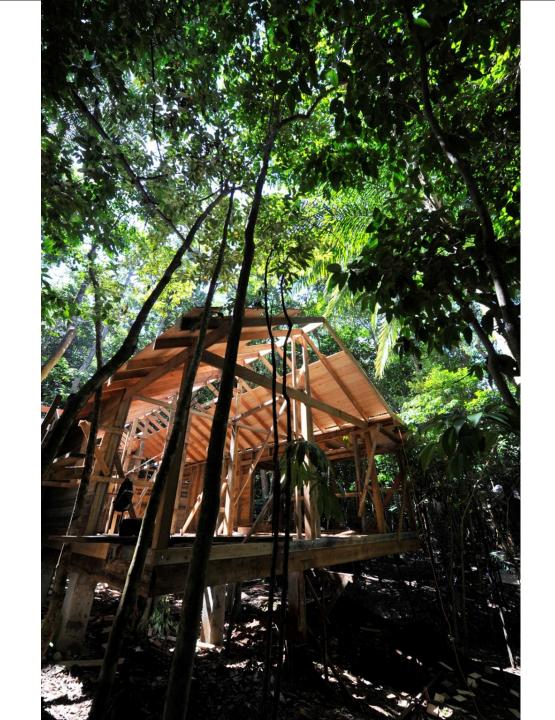


















### CONCLUSIONS



# RAPE AND PILLAGE

The majority of the building profession are not practicing true stewardship and mostly giving lip service. What I am seeing is that they have become accomplices to the rape and pillage that has been going on around the world.



# A NEW PARADIGM

If the design profession is to be well respected, a new paradigm for Site Planning, Architecture, Interior Design is required. An approach that satisfies the quadruple bottom line.





### CHRISTOPHER ALEXANDER

Through feelings of reverence, awe, wonder, and love, we somehow come more closely into relation with the underlying ground-stuff of the universe, with the domain of pure unity. In order to create architecture that has life, that connects us to our wholeness, designers need to train their inner spiritual senses and to make the practice of architecture nothing less than a path to higher consciousness.



### CHINUA ACHEBE

"Until the lions have their own historians, the history of the hunt will always glorify the hunter!".





## RE-WRITE DEFINITION

It's about time that WE re-wrote definitions and the History Books !!

- POVERTY (MONEY vs MIND, SOUL)
- DEVELOPED (MATERIAL VS WISDOM?)











### Great Zimbabwe





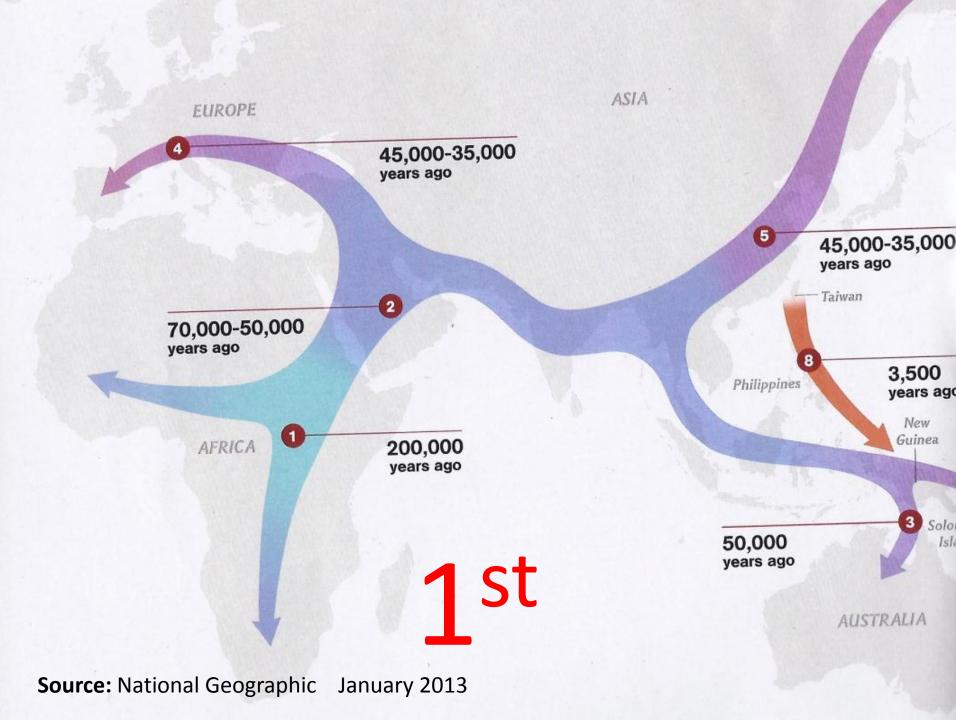




## DEVELOPED = INDUSTRIALIZED

- No country has grown to middle-income status without industrializing and urbanizing
- Cities account for some 70 per cent of global GDP.
- In China, 50 per cent of GDP is generated in coastal urban areas, which represent 20 per cent of the country's territory.







### United Nations, Department of Economic and S

### World Urbanization Prospects: Th

#### File 2: Percentage of Population Residing in Urban Areas by POP/DB/WUP/Rev.2011/

October 2012 - Copyright © 2012 by United N

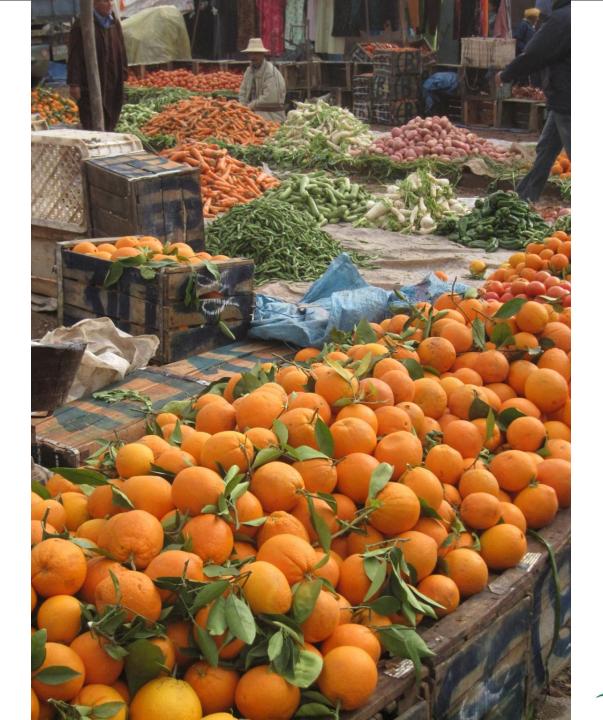
Suggested citation: United Nations, Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Population Division

| Index | Major area, region, country or area                         | Note | Country<br>code | 19 |
|-------|---|------|-----------------|----|
| 1     | World   |      | 900             | :  |
| 2     | More developed regions                                      | а    | 901             | ÷  |
| 1     | Less developed regions                                      | b    | 902             |    |
| 4     | Least developed countries                                   | С    | 941             |    |
| 5     | Less developed regions, excluding least developed countries | d    | 934             |    |
| 6     | Less developed regions, excluding China                     |      | 948             | :  |
| 7     | Sub-Saharan Africa  | е    | 947             |    |
| 8     | Africa  |      | 903             |    |
| 9     | Eastern Africa  |      | 910             |    |
| 10    | Burundi   |      | 108             |    |

MATERIAL VS WISDOM?















## If only I may grow: firmer, simpler, quieter, warmer. **Dag Hammarskjold**