

9.8 CONCLUSION

Monitoring is a fundamental part of all ecotourism operations. This chapter has explained how existing monitoring of economic performance should be integrated with other aspects of sustainability — environmental and socio-cultural performance. The chapter has proposed the establishment of a monitoring framework to pool all monitoring together so as to see how different aspects of an ecolodge influence each other. An undercurrent of the chapter has been to start monitoring on a simple and cost-effective manner, then progressively expand to cover other aspects of the operation. In this way, monitoring can be recognized as a practical and manageable tool to assist in running a sustainable ecolodge.

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3. Cooper-Marcus, C. (1985). Design Guidelines: A Bridge Between Research and Decision-Making. Paper presented at the U.S.-Japan Seminar on Environment and Behavior Research. Tucson, Arizona: Department of Psychology, University of Arizona.
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15. International Hotel & Restaurant Association, The International Hotels Environment Initiative, and United Nations Environment Programme Industry and Environment. (1995). Environmental action pack: Practical steps to benefit your business and the environment. Author.
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GUIDELINES REFERENCES continued

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ECOLOGGE WEBSITES

There is only one informational ecolodge website and several that have web pages with basic information on Ecolodges. Most of the ecolodge websites are hosted either by Ecotour Operators or by Ecolodge Operators.

Ecomon: Hitesh Mehta

www.eco-mon.com

This is the one-stop shop ecolodge website. Everything you want to know about ecolodges but were afraid to ask — definitions, criteria, research papers, guidelines, presentations, top five ecolodges, etc. It's all here. Hosted by the 'ecomon' — Hitesh Mehta.

The International Ecotourism Society

www.ecotourism.org/ecolodge.html

TIES Member Ecolodge List. Just look through the worldwide listing of TIES Institutional Member Ecolodges. Those with websites are linked so you can explore specific homepages for further information.

The Nature Conservancy

www.tnc.org

TNC has produced an in-house ecolodge manual and there is some information in this website.

Conservation International

www.conservation.org

Conservation International was instrumental in the development of Chalalan Ecolodge in Bolivia and strongly advocates community participation at the planning stages.

Untamed Path

www.untamedpath.com/Ecotourism/what_is_ecotourism.html

Ecotourism has many meanings. Explore articles about ecotourism, ecotravel and ecolodges.

Kiskeya

www.kiskeya-alternative.org/publica/diversos/ecolodge-brasil.html

An evaluation of ecolodges in the Brazilian Amazon concerned with environmental issues and impacts caused by conventional tourism, people are opting for destinations and tourism products, which do not cause environmental problems.

Ecoclub

www.ecoclub.com

International ecotourism club for ecotourists and ecotourism providers. Free hosting, email and promotion for providers, discounts in lodges and ecoproducts for ecotourists.

PRODUCT WEBSITES

The editors would like to thank Alex Joseph (josepha@ucalgary.ca) from the University of Calgary for being part of the team that researched the internet for the information below. The following list is by no means exhaustive and should you have an ecoproduct that would benefit readers of this book, please send the details and website info to hmehta3@aol.com. Because of the ever-changing nature of the Internet, some of these websites may be outdated, for which we apologize.

SITE SELECTION, PLANNING AND DESIGN

Selection Criteria, Community Based Tourism, Ecotourism, Ecolodges

www.interconnection.org

Community based tourism project, websites donated by InterConnection

Sustainable Landscape Designs

www.sustainable-landscape.com

Sustainable Landscape Designs (SLD) creates ecological designs for residential and commercial clients.

Xeriscaping

www.cabq.gov/waterconservation/xeric.html

Integrated Pest Management, BC Parks and Environment

www.env.gov.bc.ca/epd/epd/paleripml/

Paving without Asphalt or Concrete

www.buildinggreen.com/products/road_oyl.html

BIO-PHYSICAL IMPACTS

Wetlands foundation

www.humedales.org

Site provides information on mangrove project in Costa Rica.

Cairns On-line Environment guide – mangroves

<http:// Cairns.aust.com/environ/mangroves.html>

Detailed description of mangroves, with access to scientific studies.

Inside the mangrove jungle

www.flsun.com/wild_ecolmangrove.htm

Describes mangroves for : lay audience.

Mangrove replenishment initiative

<http://mangrove.org>

Good view of specific threats to mangroves. Includes good links.

Global temperature jumps off chart

www.worldwatch.org/alerts/981029.html

PRODUCT WEBSITES continued

Canada Emission Outlook

www.nrcan.gc.ca/es/ceol/outlook.pdf

Environment Canada 30-Year Climate Norms

www.mscsmc.ec.gc.ca/climate/climate_normals/index_e.cfm

6 Billion People

www.popexpo.net/eMain.html

ARCHITECTURAL DESIGN

DESIGN ELEMENTS

U.S. Department of Energy information on green buildings

www.sustainable.doe.gov

SkyCalc software for sizing skylights

www.energydesignresources.com/tools/skycalc.html

Whole Building Design Guide (US)

www.wbdg.org

Information and links on green building design

www.greenbuilding.ca

Advanced Buildings (Canadian, Commercial and Multiresidential)

www.advancedbuildings.org

Green Roofs

www.greenroofs.com

Greenroofs.com's purpose is academic, and is not subsidized by any company or institution. By sharing and exchanging information, the objective is to promote green roof interest and development through a dynamic and interactive "living" research document.

Roofscapes, Inc.

www.roofmeadow.com

Roofmeadow(r) vegetated roof covers are engineered systems that consist of three primary layers.

MATERIALS

Green building materials and background data

www.metrokc.gov/market/map/index.htm

Building Materials (India)

www.bmtpc.org

Alonobis

www.alonobis.com

Provides architects and green builders with a powerful online system that delivers green specifications and methods of procurement to fit the specific needs of your project.

U of T consideration of materials

www.cquest.utoronto.ca/env/leny421h/openspaces/chap4.html#2

Christmas Star

www.christmas-star.org

Non-toxic pool technology. Contains ozone, hydrogen peroxide, zinc, magnets, enzymes and more.

Green building materials and products list

www.oikos.com

EBN what makes a building product green?

www.buildinggreen.com/features/gp/green_products.html

Embodied energy article

<http://hem.dis.anl.gov/eehem/95/950109.html>

Biodegradability

www.ecomall.com/greenshopping/organicsol.htm

Biodegradable packaging

www.cdpoly.com/allies/allies_packaging.asp

Wood certification

www.buildinggreen.com/features/cert/certification.html

Certified Wood Products Council

www.certifiedwood.org

Forest Stewardship Council

www.web.net/~fsc/cal

Smart Wood

www.smartwood.org/product-finder/

[product-finder.html#plywood](http://www.smartwood.org/product-finder.html#plywood)

Certified Wood Product Company Listing.

Natural Resources Defense Council

www.nrdc.org/land/forests/gb/gbinx.asp

Home Depot and GBRF

www.fanweb.org/actionvan/homedepot.html

Sierra Club petitions Home Depot

www.sierraclub.ca/bc/News/Media_Releases/HomeDepot.html

List of reclaimed wood suppliers

www.buildinggreen.com/products/recycled_wood.html

Treated wood

www.buildinggreen.com/features/tw/treated_wood.html

Comparing against wood (Wood Council)

www.cwc.ca/english/publications/technical_bulletins/technical_bulletin_4.html

CanFibre greenMDF

www.canfibre.com

Steel vs. Wood studs

www.buildinggreen.com/features/svw/steel_vs_wood.html

Steel Alliance

www.thenewsteel.org

PRODUCT WEBSITES continued

Cement and Concrete: Environmental Considerations
www.buildinggreen.com/features/cemcementconc.html

Solenium Carpet tile by Interface, Inc.
www.solenium.com

Nature's Carpet by Colin Campbell (Vancouver)
www.colcam.com

Buyer's guide to carpet
muextension.missouri.edu/xplor/regpubs/ncr463.htm

Air gap
www.thewindowman.co.uk/lair-gap.htm

Cellulose Insulation Manufacturers Association (CIMA)
www.cellulose.org

Recycle Steel
www.recycle-steel.org/construction/main.html

PRC – 1998
www.prc.org/guide/prodindx.htm
Recycled Products Guide.

The Plastic Lumber Company, Inc.
www.plasticlumber.com
Recycled plastic products: picnic tables, park benches, and site amenities

Recycling plastics
www.newton.dep.anl.gov/askasci/env98.htm

Disposal of fluorescent tubes (EPA)
<http://es.epa.gov/techinfo/facts/lamps-fs.html>

Case Studies of recycled ceiling tile in use and other ceiling products
<http://dnr.metrokc.gov/market/map/Product%20profile/ceilingtile.htm>

SierraPine Limited
www.sierrapine.com
Manufacturer of 100% recycled and reclaimed medium-density fiberboard. Products that have no added formaldehyde.

Earthship
www.slip.net/~ckent/earthship/
Homes built from recycled tires, cans, etc. Definitely a different style of environmental house — puts new meaning to recycling and re-using.

Sustainable Construction
www.mha-net.org/docs/sustain.htm#embodied

Strawbale construction
http://solstice.crest.org/efficiency/straw_insulation/index.html

Rammed earth construction
www.greenbuilder.com/sourcebook/EarthGuidelines.html#Rammed

Rammed Earth – The Australian Connection
www.hahaha.com.au/rammed.earth/
Although quite an old process, Rammed Earth is making something of a comeback as an ecologically sound building practice. The results are beautiful, solid and earth-friendly, although labor-intensive.

Adobe
www.epsea.org/adobe.html

Cast Earth
www.castearth.com
A structural material made with earth and calcined gypsum can replace wood or steel framing in residential and light commercial buildings, reversing escalating costs while yielding energy and environmental benefits.

Earthship Biotechture
www.earthship.org
Independent Housing for the Planet.

Explanation of Insulation, R-Value, Thermal Resistance, etc.
www.buildinggreen.com/features/tm/thermal.html

Steel vs Wood Residential Construction
<http://ascweb.org/ljce/97vol1/Ino4/97VOL144BATEMAN.HTM>

Wood vs. Steel (Wood point of view)
www.lumber.com/articles/art_04.asp

Cost comparison: strawbale vs. wood vs. cellulose
<http://solstice.crest.org/efficiency/strawbale-list-archive/9612/msg00589.html>

WATER

Learning to be water-wise and energy efficient — An education program
www.getwise.org/splash.html
Targets a younger audience but contains some interesting facts and tips for people of all ages, including a section describing the water cycle.

American Water and Energy Savers, Inc.
www.americanwater.com/49ways.htm
A commercial site that sells water-saving products.

Waterwiser: The energy efficiency Clearinghouse
www.waterwiser.org
Contains a good list of links.

Environment Canada: water conservation/efficiency
www.ec.gc.ca/water/en/manage/efficle_weff.htm

Water conservation
www.its-canada.com/reed/eehclds12.htm

Greywater: A recyclable Solution
www.waterstore.com
Advocates greywater use, including a general description and diagram of a greywater system.

PRODUCT WEBSITES continued

Greywater explained
www.greywater.com

Rainwater Harvesting
www.southface.org/home/spotpubs/articles/rainwater.htm

Rainwater harvesting: a new water source
<http://ltwri.tamu.edu/twripubs/WtrSavrs/v3n2/article-1.html>

Home Use of Graywater Rainwater Conserves Water — and May Save Money
ag.arizona.edu/AZWATER/arroyo/071rain.html

Rainwater Collection by Green Builder
<http://thegreenbuilder.com/sourcebook/Rainwater.html>

Rainwater harvesting: a new water source by Jan Gerston
<http://ltwri.tamu.edu/twripubs/WtrSavrs/v3n2/article-1.html>

Water Storage Solutions
www.waterstoragesolutions.com
Water tanks for rainwater collection.

Environment Canada water conservation/efficiency
www.ec.gc.ca/water/en/manage/efficie_weff.htm

Example of water drain heat exchanger
www.caddet-ee.org/newsdesk/nw497_05.htm

Washer & Dryer listing on YHP
www.yourhomeplanet.com/Products/Consumer/Appliances/Washer_Dryer/

Staber 2000 washer/dryer
www.staber.com/bin/Images/POP%20image.jpg

Discussion on horizontal washer/dryer combos
www.nahbrc.org/toolbase/pandt/tech/abstracts/lappab7.html

Hot water
www.heimer.com/information/hot_water.html#Temperature

The septic information site
www.inspect-ny.com/septbook.htm

Water, energy, and agriculture
www.npg.org/forums/tightening_conflict.htm

Soybio-Drip
www.soybio-drip.com
An earth friendly biodegradable non-petroleum based oil for Vertical Shaft Water Pumps.

Residential Enviro Design
www.reddawn.com

Conservation/Water-Related Links
www.waterwiser.org/template2.cfm?page1=reuselinks&page2=links_menu

ENERGY

The real price of oil
www.worldwatch.org/alerts/000928.html

The madness of nuclear energy
www.theecologist.org/Nov99.html

Nuclear nears peak
www.worldwatch.org/alerts/990304.html

James & James – Renewable energy suppliers and services
www.jxj.com/dirlwdress
Site maintains searchable database of renewable energy suppliers and services in many different countries worldwide.

Energy Harvester
www.energyharvester.com
Dealer and installer of renewable energy technology. Provides living energy systems.

Real Goods Renewables / Gaiam
www.realgoods.com
Energy efficient appliances including washing machines and dryers, sun ovens, off-grid refrigeration and composting toilets.

U.S. Department of Energy information site
www.eren.doe.gov/

Union of Concerned Scientists
www.uscusa.org

eValuator software for finding life cycle costs of design decisions
www.energydesignresources.com/tools/evaluator.html

Ecodesign BC Links page
www.ecodesign.bc.ca/links.htm

Sustainable energy in Canada
www.newenergy.org

Facts about Green Power, Enviro Canada
www.mb.ec.gc.ca/infopublications/ce00s01.en.html

Page 4 of Energy Demand report
www.nrcan.gc.ca/ce/olalta-96b.pdf

Hydro Quebec, James Bay project
www.hydro.qc.ca/visit/virtual_visit/dam.html

3 Gorges Dam
www.rose-hulman.edu/Class/ce/HTML/curriculum/undergraduate/CE361/tgd/tgd.html

SOLAR

Passive solar design using Walden diagrams and software
www.srv.net/opt/sunchrt.html

ACR Solar International
www.solarroofs.com

Solar water heating systems. High-performance, advanced design.

Big Frog Mountain Corporation
www.Bigfrogmountain.com

Solar electric equipment, windmills, micro to medium hydro systems, energy efficient appliances.

Sunnyside Solar, Inc.
www.sunnysidesolar.com

Full-service photovoltaic company that specializes in small, medium- and large-sized photovoltaic systems for both remote and non-remote locations.

Solar Architecture — Passive Cooling
http://lmhathwar.tripod.com/thesis/solar/solar_architecture.htm

OM Solar
www.omsolar.com
The OM Solar system is based on a fundamental objective: to create homes and buildings that respond flexibly to exterior environmental conditions so as to optimize the use of available solar energy and other climatic patterns for indoor heating and cooling, ventilation, dehumidification and hot water supply.

The Solar Cooking Archive
<http://solarcooking.org>

Solar energy international
www.solarenergy.org

Online solar calculations
<http://susdesign.com/sunangle/>

Building integrated photovoltaic
www.eren.doe.gov/solarbuildings/integrated.html

Mr. Solar
www.mrsolar.com

Maine solar house
<http://solstice.crest.org/renewables/wlord/index.html>

The hazards of solar energy
www.lhup.edu/~dsimanek/solar.htm

Solar Cooker Field Test South Africa
www.solarcookers.co.za
Our vision is to supply African countries with low-cost mass-produced solar stoves or components of high quality produced in South Africa, with other words to offer solar stoves as a commercial product to everybody.

Solstice
<http://solstice.crest.org>

Sustainable energy in Canada
www.newenergy.org

Solar Energy Society of Canada
www.solarenergysociety.ca

Solar Energy International
www.solarenergy.org

WIND

Build your own wind turbine from reclaimed parts
www.windmill.on.ca/prod01.htm

Home wind energy mailing list
<mailto:awea-wind-home-subscribe@egroups.com>

Wind power sets growth record
www.worldwatch.org/alerts/981229.html

Wind Energy Maps (U.S.)
<http://rredc.nrel.gov/wind/pubs/atlas/>

Canadian Wind Energy Association
www.canwea.ca

HYDRO

Tidal energy
www.bluenergy.com

Mini hydro FAQ
www.jademountain.com/faq/faqhydro.html

Geothermal: Geothermal Energy Society
www.geotherm.org

US DOE geothermal
www.eren.doe.gov/geothermal/

FUEL CELLS

Source for innovative fuel cell energy systems
www.fuelcellstore.com

Micro fuel cells
www.wirednews.com/news/technology/0,1282,36013,00.html

Fuel Cells
www.fuelcells.org

Ballard Power Systems
www.ballard.com

PRODUCT WEBSITES continued

GE Microgen Home Fuel Cells available 2001
www.gemicrogen.com

Vision of a Hydrogen Future
www.unh.edu/lipssr/Balaton/Bulletins/spr99page11.html

BIOMASS

American Bioenergy Association
www.biomass.org

BIODIESEL

Biodiesel
http://journeytoforever.org/biodiesel_link.html
Biodiesel is much cleaner than fossil-fuel diesel. It can be used in any diesel engine with no need for modifications — in fact diesel engines run better and last longer with biodiesel. And it can easily be made from a common waste product — used cooking oil.

GreaseCar.com
www.greasecar.com

Information and Links on Bio Diesel
www.kelseyville.com/biodiesel/

Journey to Forever
<http://journeytoforever.org>

VeggieVan
www.veggievan.com

Wiener Stadtwerke
www.energia.at

OTHER

Heat pumps
www.pnl.gov/fta/2_ground.htm

Direct current motor
<http://home.a-city.de/walter.fendt/physengl/electricmotor.htm>

DAYLIGHTING

Daylighting Collaborative Website
www.daylighting.org

Tips for daylighting
<http://eande.lbl.gov/btp/pub/designguide/>

Daylighting Products and Case Studies compiled by Lightsearch
www.lightsearch.com/search/applications/daylighting.html

INDOOR ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

Indoor Air Quality
www.its-canada.com/treed/iaq/overview.htm

IAQ Health Canada
www.hc-sc.gc.ca/ehp/lehd/lbch/air_quality/indoor_air.htm

EPA IAQ Clearinghouse
www.epa.gov/iaq/iaqinfo.html

Multiple Chemical Sensitivity Primer
www.geocities.com/HotSprings/Spa/4415/index.html

WASTE

World of composting toilets
www.compostingtoilet.org

Clivus Multrum – Waterless composting toilets
www.earthlink.com/aul/clivus/index.html

EPA solid waste management/environmental education
www.epa.gov/osw

Composting and resource directory
www.cals.cornell.edu/dept/compost

OPERATIONS

COMPOSTING

NRDC – Composting overview
www.igc.apc.org/nrdc/bkgrd/gacompost.html

Worm Forum
www.wormdigest.org/forum/index.cgi
This is a place for worm enthusiasts to share information and ask questions.

Bioagro
www.gratisweb.com/bioagro/compost.htm
We are growers of redworms and producers of composts fullcompostsand vermicomposts.

City Farmer Article on Composting
www.cityfarmer.org/wormcomp61.html

Community Composting Network
www.othas.org.uk/ccn/index.html
Providing advice and support to existing and would-be community composting projects across the UK.

Composting Bin Plans and Details
www.speakeasy.org/~tilth/download/download.html
Portable Wood and Wire Compost Bin. Tilth Worm Composting Bin. Wood and Wire Stationary 3-Bin Composting System. Homemade Food Waste Composter.

Composting Forum

<http://forums.gardenweb.com/forums/soil/>

This forum is for the discussion of all aspects of soil — including topics like creating a healthy balanced soil methods of composting and using mulches effectively.

Is vermicompost better than compost?

www.soilfoodweb.com/biocyclusvermicomposting.html

RECYCLING

NRDC-Recycling overview

www.igc.apc.org/nrdc/bkgrd/garecyc.html

Recycling

www.stopwaste.org

CLEANING PRODUCTS

1ST Environsafety, Inc.

www.1stenvironsafety.com

Replaces hazardous petrochemical products with new, cheaper, nontoxic colloidal cleaners. Fume-free, water-soluble degreasers.

Earth Friendly Products

www.ecos.com

Full line of 100% naturally based, nontoxic, biodegradable household cleaning products. No animal products/testing, no phosphates, chlorine, petroleum products, ammonia or harsh chemicals. Recyclable packaging.

Rochester Midland Corporation

www.rochestermidland.com

Complete range of high-performance, environmentally preferable cleaning products. All are non-toxic, phosphate-free, noncorrosive, noncombustible and nonreactive. Contains neither suspected carcinogens nor ozone depleting compounds. Formulated with a preference to using rapidly renewable resources.

GREEN DESIGN AND BUILDING WEBSITES

Ecosustainable Hub – Ecology Environment Sustainability

www.ecosustainable.com.au

One-stop connection to resources and tools on ecology, environment and sustainability. Facilitating cooperation, networking and ethical developments.

Denver Service Center

www.nps.gov/dscl/dsgncnstr/susdb

Green products/environmental performances database

Sustainable buildings sourcebook

www.greenbuilder.com/sourcebook/contents.html

Waste, energy, water, materials

Green Home

www.greenhome.com

Find green alternatives to the products you use every day. Everything you need for a healthy home environment!

Cargill

www.cdply.com/natureworks.asp

Plastic products made from corn and other renewable resources.

Recyclops

www.recyclops.com

Green Building Products

www.earthdream.com/mall/building.shtml

EcoNexus — The Green Procurement Directory

www.econexus.net

An on-line database of green products, green services and green companies developed by the Centre for Indigenous Environmental Resources.

Environment Design. & Construction Magazine

www.edcmag.com/buyersguide.htm

Sustainable Community Building

www.sustainable.com

Sustainable Development

www.environmentliteracy.org/

Ecological Footprint Information

www.eclci.org

Sustainability Indicators

www.subjectmatters.com

Envirosource

www.envirosource.com

Green Design Network

www.greendesign.net

GreenSpec

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Hitesh is one of the leading figures in the field of planning and design of ecolodges, has written several papers on the subject and speaks regularly at conferences around the world. Hitesh also specializes in facilitating participatory ecodesign workshops. His website (www.eco-mon.com) on ecolodges is the only one of its kind on the internet. Hitesh is one of the founding members of the Ecotourism Society of Kenya (ESOK) and sits on the Board of Directors for The International Ecotourism Society (TIES) and advisory boards of the Brazilian Environmental Society (BIOSFERA), the Conservation International Ecotourism Award, and Florida Ecotourism and Education Committee. He is also an Adjunct Professor at Florida International University and teaches a class on "Sustainable Tourism."

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Ana is recognized as a professional leader in the ecotourism industry and has extensive experience as a consultant, spokesperson and professor in several countries, including Brazil, Ecuador, Kenya, Indonesia and Spain. She served as Director of the Masters Degree Program on Ecotourism, ULACIT and for several years was Deputy Director of the Costa Rican National Museum. Ana has published various articles on tourism, conservation and sustainable development that can be found in magazines and books specialized on these topics. "Guidelines for the best practice of ecotourism in protected areas" is among the most well-known of her publications. Ana has a degree in Biology and holds a MSc. in Museum Studies from the University of Leicester, UK. In 1994, she received the "National Ecology" award, presented by the National Association of Tourism Professionals of Costa Rica.

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While living in Montana, John developed a love of wildlife and a keen interest in the environment and its preservation. His enthusiasm for the outdoors has inspired him to camp in the Bob Marshall Wilderness, Montana; hike the trails of Yosemite, California; canoe down the Suwannee River, Florida; and climb Nevis Peak on the island of Nevis.

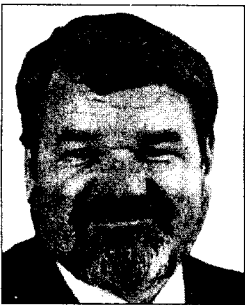
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KAREN LEWIS has a degree in Music Education and Geography from the University of Minnesota and taught music for several years in Minnesota. From 1968 to 1970, she and her husband John Lewis were Peace Corps Volunteers in Kenya, East Africa, where they were secondary school educators in rural schools. In 1990, Karen and John took their avocation of bird watching to a contributory level and purchased more than 1,000 acres of tropical rain forest in the isolated Osa Peninsula of southwest Costa Rica. To maintain and conserve this reserve they developed the ecolodge Lapa Rios. Together with their local community they offer an environmental and cultural experience for a limited number of guests. Karen believes ecotourism can use education as a tool to promote land conservation; as a vehicle to create greater self-worth for and to preserve a community; and as a means to attract curious guests, teaching them about wilderness areas while they sustain a community and its natural environment. In 2002, Karen and John Lewis dedicated a land conservation easement that will protect the Lapa Rios Reserve in perpetuity.

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SIMON MCARTHUR is renowned for strategically bridging the gap between heritage management, visitor management and tourism activity. He has seven years industry experience in planning and delivering tourism developments in highly sensitive, high profile areas throughout the world, including Central and South America, China and the Pacific Islands. He also has six years experience as the prime tourism and visitor management specialist for Parks Victoria, the Tasmanian Department of Parks Wildlife and Heritage, and Forestry Tasmania, where he received numerous awards for innovative planning and sensitively designed developments. Simon is also a renowned author in his field, with 150 papers on managing tourism in sensitive areas and three books on heritage tourism and visitor management. Simon's key areas of expertise are in the policy, planning, product development, and management of special interest tourism in sensitive natural and cultural areas.

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TERRY PRATT worked in nature tourism since 1980, for the first seven years as owner/operator of Top Flight Nature Tours based in Ontario, Canada. Costa Rica was one of her company’s main destinations. Then, in 1987, at a time when increasing numbers of travelers were discovering Costa Rica’s natural attractions, Terry adopted it as her home. After working for one year at Cosmos Tours, helping to establish and develop their incoming department, she moved on to become a private consultant for marketing nature-based tourism. With her in-depth knowledge of Costa Rica’s nature “product,” her understanding of the existing and potential markets, and her writing skills, Terry quickly built a broad client base that included hotels, lodges, tour operators, publicity agencies and the Costa Rican Tourist Board. In 1993, she went into partnership with Ana Baez to establish Turismo & Conservacion Consultores, S.A. (T&CC). Ana and Terry were local coordinators for The Ecotourism Society’s Second International Forum & Field Seminar on Eco-Lodging held in Costa Rica in 1995. After 10 successful years as a consultant, Terry chose to work exclusively with one of her long-term clients and in 1997 accepted a position as Marketing Director for Horizontes Nature Tours, considered by many to be Costa Rica’s leading ecotourism operator.

Terry unfortunately died in a plane accident in mid-2000. Through her contributions in this book, her work lives on.



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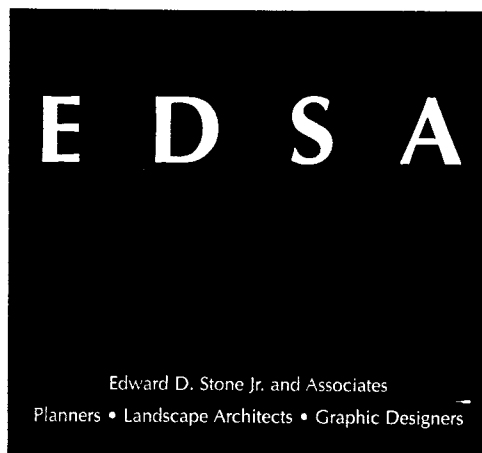
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EDSA's experience with ecotourism projects is extensive. Some examples are: Futuro Model Rainforest Ecolodge, Amazonas, Brazil; Sustainable Development Master Plan of Mayaguana Island, Bahamas; Red Sea Ecolodge Guidelines, Egypt; Tourism Diversification Programme, Kenya; Vagamom Hill Retreat, India; Punta Mangle Ecoresort, Dominican Republic; Northwest Point Ecotourism Plan, Turks and Caicos; Kissimmee River Save Our Rivers, Florida; and El Portal Tropical and Visitor Center, Puerto Rico. The firm's works have been recognized with more than 150 awards for their design excellence and environmental sensitivity and, more importantly, for their viability and success as environments, which are enjoyed by those who use them.

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Since 1992, Nomadic Expeditions has specialized in travel to Mongolia, promoting cultural, educational and environmental awareness and understanding. In 2002, Nomadic Expeditions opened the Gobi Lodge, built in accordance with the canons of Mongolian Buddhist architecture without using a single nail. This beautiful ger camp, built with the participation of the local community, serves as a convenient base for travelers to explore the wilds of the Gobi Desert. The main buildings were constructed by local workers and artisans to complement the natural surroundings and to utilize renewable energy sources (solar and wind power). The Gobi Lodge is an integral part of Nomadic Expeditions' ongoing commitment to ecotourism and sustainable development.

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The Nature Conservancy's mission is to preserve plants, animals and natural communities that represent the diversity of life on earth by protecting the lands and waters they need to survive. Internationally, the non-profit organization works with like-minded local conservation partners and communities to bring sustainable protection to natural areas. The Ecotourism Program provides technical assistance to our international partners to better harness the potential of ecotourism as a conservation tool that contributes to the long-term protection of biodiversity and the natural resources upon which it is based. The Nature Conservancy's International Trips Program offers ecotours that educate travelers about the organization's work with local partners and communities in Latin America, the Caribbean, Canada and Asia/Pacific, and supports their conservation efforts.

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- WILLIAM MCDONOUGH

Time magazine Hero of the Planet, 1999

Author of “The Hannover Principles” and Renowned Sustainable Design Architect

