

Mr. Karmjitsinh Bihola

**Design Thinker | Innovation Strategist | Startup Mentor
Creative Intelligence Coach | WCIW Creativity Ambassador**

Founder, Innodesk Designovation Services, Gujarat, India

Adjunct Professor, Taylor's University, Malaysia

Global Advisor, World Change Summit (WCS)

Director, Founder Institute (FI), Ahmedabad chapter



Educational Qualification:

- ME in Mechanical Engineering (Specialization in Product Design 2011), Stevens Institute of Technology, New Jersey, USA
- B.E (2008) and Diploma (2005) in Mechanical Engineering

Area of Expertise: **Design Thinking, Creativity & Innovation, Entrepreneurship, Start-up Mentoring & Growth, Product Design & Development, Curriculum Design, Policy development & Implementation in Innovation and Entrepreneurship, Design Research, System Thinking, Pedagogical Innovation, Community upliftment through Design, Innovation & Entrepreneurship**

Professional Experience: 10 years in developing and building Innovation & start-up ecosystem

Founder, Innodesk Designovation Services, Ahmedabad (Since August 2020)

- Working with many institutes/universities and incubation centers to develop a healthy Innovation & Entrepreneurship Ecosystem with custom-made training programs and capacity building programs, courses in areas of Design Thinking, Creativity & Innovation, Entrepreneurship and Emerging Technologies.
- Supporting start-ups and incubation centers to scout best business ideas through our strategic process and Start-up Due Diligence (Validation) process on 3 Pillars of Start-up i.e. (1) Start-up Ideas at very early stage; How to select right business idea and market, (2) Product/Technology; Ensuring Innovativeness & Scalability of an Idea, (3) Business Model and Growth Strategy
- **Mentored 2000+ aspiring entrepreneurs and Innovators, trained 4500+ faculty members and conducted 500+ training programs and workshops** in areas of Design Thinking, Innovation and Entrepreneurship.
- Developing various skill development and project-based learning programs to nurture 21st century industry required skills sets, problem solving mindset, leadership & business acumen.
- Jury Member, Mentor and advisor for many National & International level events like Start-up Pitch, Hack-a-thons, Ideation in areas of Design, Creativity & Innovation, Entrepreneurship.
- Trusted Vendor for TCS iON; developing & conducting various courses for TCS like Design Thinking, Innovation & Entrepreneurship, Creative Thinking etc.
- Visiting faculty for **Entrepreneurship AND Creativity & Innovation** courses at Ganpat University and for **Design Thinking** course at Symbiosis Institute of Technology, Pune.
- Conducted courses/training programs/sessions for Design Thinking, Creativity & Innovation, Entrepreneurship at IIM Bodhgaya, IIT BHU Varanasi, AIM NITI Aayog (MHRD), World Change

Summit (WCS), DIC and AIC GTU, SSIP institutes, Nirma University, Ganpat University, Amity University, AICTE Atal FDPs, Delhi University, JNTU Hyderabad, RTU Rajasthan etc.

- **Director for Founder Institute (FI) Ahmedabad and Mentor at FI Mumbai chapter.** The Founder Institute is the world's largest accelerator program and most proven network to turn ideas into fundable start-ups, and then start-ups into global businesses. We help founders across several early-stages – Idea stage, MVP Stage and Growth Stage.
- Mr. Bihola is also nominated as a **Mentor of Change (MoC)** for Atal Tinkering Lab, an initiative of Atal Innovation Mission, a flagship initiative by NITI Aayog to promote innovation and entrepreneurship across the country.
- Nominated as a mentor on CII Startup Mentor Board.
- He was also instrumental in setting up **Design Innovation Centre (Hub & Spoke model)** at GTU, granted by MHRD to build an innovative and design-led ecosystem for students, faculty members, researchers, start-ups and industry in Gujarat region.

GTU (October 2014 – February 2020), Assistant Professor - Centre for Industrial Design (Open Design School) & Coordinator - Design Innovation Centre (A MHRD, GoI Initiative)

Secured various grants: DIC MHRD (10 cr.), AIC AIM, NITI Aayog (10 cr.), NIDHI – TBI (5 cr.), AUTODESK Design Centre (Software Support), SSIP (1 cr.)

Pedagogical Innovation: Created **Design Engineering subject** (First in India for affiliating type University structure) for Engineering students in all branches to develop Innovation and Startup culture. Every year almost **1,00,000 students** are learning the aspects of Design Thinking through this course and I was leading this initiation by researching, developing and iterating it's content, evaluation methods and learning modules at GTU from its inception.

- Core team member for curriculum development for **MBA-IEV program at GTU**, taken classes for various modules like Design Thinking, Market Research & Opportunity analysis, Value Proposition & Business model, Innovation Strategies & management AND also mentored start-ups in their journey.
- Developed and implemented **Creativity and Innovation Bootcamp** - exclusively designed module for School Children of two weeks, through which he is nurturing and mentoring school children for creativity and innovation mindset to develop problem solving, creative thinking, Tinkering and Material Exploration skills all with Fun-Learning, game-based and hands-on exercises.

Represented GTU as Director for consecutive 3 years at APEN (Asia Professional Education Network by JAPAN) at Indonesia, India, Laos and Malaysia.

Community Innovation: To identify the industry/community problems and solve them using design thinking approach and technological solutions - Created the process of **Industrial Shodh Yatra (ISY) module for pre 7th semester.**

Policy Level Efforts: Instrumental in drafting **SSIP (Student Start-up Innovation Policy)** scheme of GoG and implementing the same among all affiliated GTU colleges and mentored student projects for further developments from idea to MVP using Design Thinking approach.

Co-Creation and Collaboration Efforts: Nodal Centre Lead Coordinator, since last three years, for the World's biggest Innovation event – **Smart India Hack-a-thon (SIH)** for Gujarat state region and worked with ISRO's (Indian Space Research Organization) scientists on framing the various challenges applying Design Thinking approach and implementation of students innovation through SIH event.

- Capable of designing, planning and executing **Incubation related activities** and **mentoring multidisciplinary projects** to convert them into successful start-ups, patents and profitable products.
- Trained students and faculty members in Hydraulics and Pneumatics, Robotics and Automation domain at **Centre of Excellence of Bosch lab established at GTU.**
- Actively involved in various administrative processes and programs of university as a part of this job role time to time.

About INNODESK:



Innodesk is a “**Design-driven Innovation Strategy**” firm to foster entrepreneurship, intrapreneurship and 21st Century skills. We offer courses, capacity building programs and hands-on training to students, faculty members, Start-ups and professionals in areas of Design Thinking, Creativity & Innovation, Entrepreneurship and Emerging Technologies. Everything, we do is inspired by Design Thinking and measured by the outcomes our client’s desire. We are known for our highly reputed and educated mentors on-boarded who help aspiring entrepreneurs and start-ups in their product development and growth strategy to scale their ideas into real marketable products.

Inspired by the vision of empowering Self-Reliant India, Innodesk aims to nurture and enhance creativity, problem solving and innovation skills among young budding minds and entrepreneurs through our various flagship programs and custom-made courses in areas of Design Thinking, Innovation, Entrepreneurship and Emerging Technologies. We empower teams and individuals to be inspired and nurtured through structured process of innovation, ‘learning-by-doing’ approach and strengthen their ability for creative problem solving and help organisations build the necessary environment and mind-set for fundamental shifts.

InnodeskZone is a community of designers, engineers, innovators, entrepreneurs, teachers and more importantly HUMANS, aligned to instil design and innovation in India and globally.

Follow us on social media: [@innodeskzone](#)

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