

Ildikó Hermina Szilasi



Contacts

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Address: 2049 Diósd, Hunyadi str. 2. Hungary
Date and place of birth: 09.05.1983, Budapest

Education

Ph.D.Candidate	Cultural Anthropology, University of Pécs, 2007-
MA	Cultural Heritage Manager, Corvinus-ISES, UNESCO Chair, 2013
MA	Cultural Anthropology, Eötvös Loránd University, 2007
Certificate	African studies, Eötvös Loránd University, 2007
BA	Economist, College of Modern Business Studies, 2006
Matura	Lajos Bárdos Primary and Secondary School, 2001
Certificate	Leó Weiner Music School, Faculty of piano, 2001

Languages

Hungarian	Mother tongue
English	Fluent, Advanced level Language Certificate
French	Fluent
Spanish	Good, Intermediate level Language Certificate
Lingala(Congo)	Basic

Professional experience:

Independent Africa-expert , cultural development specialist: 2011- present

Culturafrica Foundation January 2012- present: President

Short term observer, EU-EOM: Sierra Leone- 2012; DR-Congo- 2011

Long-term observer, EU-EOM: Madagascar 2013-2014

Policy officer for Africa, office of MEP Zita Gurmai, European Parliament, June- July 2011

African-Hungarian Union; December, 2007- February 2011: development projects director in Africa; policy officer; country/ region specialist for the DRC and the Great Lakes Region.

Foundation for Africa, June 2004- February 2007: General Secretary
Foundation for Africa, June 2002- June 2004: Volunteer

Leader and organizer of cultural expeditions and projects in Africa:
Cultural treasures of Ghana and Burkina Faso, 2013
László Magyar Expedition, 2012, Angola DR-Congo
Senegal, the world of the marabouts - 2012, Senegal
Torday-Congo Expedition, 2009, DR-Congo

Short –term (1-3 months) field missions in the field of culture, education and social welfare in 23 African countries since 2004.

Memberships

Culturafrica Foundation, President
African-Hungarian Union (AHU), Member
African Research Center, University of Pécs, external consultant
Afrika tanulmányok (African Studies) review, external consultant

CONCORD Cotonou Working Group, Brussels, Expert

HAND- Hungarian Association of NGO-s for Development and Humanitarian Aid,
Africa Working Group, Member

Royal Anthropological Institute- Junior Fellow Fellow

Lectures (some)

- Provinces of DRC, Congolese Business and Economic Forum, June 10, 2014
- New opportunities in Africa, February 28, 2014
- Awareness Raising lectures of Africa and its cultures. Several place and date, 2012-2014
- Moderator, CONCORD Lunch debate, 21th ACP-EU JPA, 17 May, 2011
- How ACP-EU relation effect on New Member States NGO-s and how they can influence them? Entrance points for advocacy and thematic links with JPA debates – CONCORD capacity building seminar, 13 May, 2011
- Civil Society Participation in the framework of the CPA and the JAES, EU CSO Steering Group Consultation on the Joint Africa EU Strategy (JAES), 21-22 September, 2010, Brussels
- The role of Hungarian NGDO-s in Africa. Strategic Planning Meeting with the Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Hungary, 13 September, 2010, Pécs
- Trade patterns of Bakuba artefacts in the Congo. International Africa Conference, 26 May, 2010, Pécs
- László Magyar Conference, Hungarian Academy of Sciences, Torday and Magyar at the Babunda. December, 2009, Budapest
- 15th ACP-EU JPA, Ljubljana, Slovenia. The role of the New Member States (NMS) of the EU in international development. The Concord briefing papers. March, 2008, Ljubljana
- 2nd Africanist Conference. The EDF and Africa- a view from the civil society. December, 2007, Pécs
- Poverty reduction projects in Africa conference. How to use the sources of the 10th EDF. November, 2007, Budapest

Exhibitions

- Africapositive; Sziget Festival 2013 August; Africa Days September 2013; Africa Expo and Fair Budapest, 2014 February
- Mama Paula's kitchen and Kwanyama objects in László Magyar exhibition (Angola), Museum of Dunaföldvár, May 2011; Museum of Ethnography, Érd 2013
- Congo. On the tracks of Emil Torday. Budapest Congress Centre- 21th ACP-EU JPA, May 2011/ Palais du Peuple- Kinshasa, 20th ACP-EU JPA, December 2010/ Nádor Gallery, Pécs – Cultural Centre of the EU, May, 2010/ Museum of Ethnography, Budapest, February 2010 etc. (www.congoexpedition.com)
- Kinshasa, an African city under modernization. Museum of Dunaföldvár, May 2007- May 2009
- Akilafote? Whose fault? Drawings of Congolese ex- child soldiers. Several place, several date (Millenáris Park, Budapest; Gödör Klub, Budapest; Citadella Hotel, Budapest etc.)

Other activities

Organizer and founder of the Africa Expo and Fair (2011,2013 and 2014) at HUNGEXPO Budapest Fair Centre (<http://www.afrikaexpo.hu/index.php?modul=menupontok&kod=11>)
CEO, Travel To Africa Tour Operator, www.utazzafrikaba.hu
Regular media and television reports and appearances. (40-50/year)
Regular lectures and publications. (30-40/year)
Collecting objects and African art. (Several hundred pieces)
Contribution to the Africa collection of the Museum of Ethnography by donating objects.

Taking part of several documentary film projects in Africa as expert and editor:
Senegal and Ghana with József Sáfrány
Faces of the world with Kata Jaksity in Uganda and Kenya
Another Planet with Ferenc Moldoványi in DRC
Orphans of the world with Gabriella Jakupcsek in DRC

Scholarships

Visiting researcher, University of Namibia, 2010
Klebelberg Kuno Scholarship, 2008
ELTE Research fellowship, 2005, 2006
SARLO-JDC Tolerance Scholarship, 2004

Other Skills

Project-management and tender-writing, specialisation on EU and EDF tenders
ECDL (European Computer Driving License). Driving licence. GPS and Thuraya usage experience
Under water diving, advanced level PADI certificate

Field of interest

Cultural Development in Africa. Cultural heritage preservation in Africa. UNESCO. Cultural tourism.

Hobbies

Salsa, piano, diving, travels.

Books:

Congo- On the tracks of Emil Torday. (National Geographic Branded). Afrikai-Magyar Egyesület, Budapest, 2010

The children of war. Child soldiers and child mothers at the Great Lakes region. Afribook, Budapest, 2008

Publications (some):

Changes of Kuba Art, under publication, Ethnographia, 2014

Culture of Africa, special issue on Africa, Pillanatkép Afrikáról, Publikon Kiadó, 2013

With fetish and body, the laamb of Senegal-Interpress Magazine, 2013

Angola- on the tracks of László Magyar, several place, 2012-2014

Angola Today, National Geographic Magazine, 2013

The Pilgrimage of Touba and Muridism in Senegal, several editions, several place, 2012-2013

Matonge, a Congolese migrant –world in Brussels, Új népvándorlások a 21. században, Publikon, 2011

Endless circle. Child-soldiers in Eastern Congo. Interpress Magazine. July, 2011

Forests in Cameroon. Spektrum, June, 2011

Amina. Women in Africa. Afrika tanulmányok, November, 2010

Vagenya fishermen before and today. Spektrum, September, 2010

On the tracks of Emil Torday in the Congo. Afrika tanulmányok, July, 2010

Magical Congo. National Geographic Magazine Hungary, June, 2010

Invisible and visible city of Kinshasa. Afrika tanulmányok. III/1. 2009

Change of material culture in the Congo. Afrika tanulmányok II/4. 2008

Abandoned Children. Afrika tanulmányok. II/3. 2008

The Mogadishu- Budapest- Nairobi triangle. Afrika tanulmányok. II/3. 2008

The role of Hungarian NGDO-s in Africa In: Africana Hungarica. 2007, 2. 1-2.