

Ildikó Hermina Szilasi



Contacts

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Education

Ph.D.Candidate	Cultural Anthropology, University of Pécs, 2007-
MA	Cultural Anthropology, Eötvös Loránd University, 2007
Certificate	African studies, Eötvös Loránd University, 2007
BA	Economist, College of Modern Business Studies, 200
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, Swahili	Basic

Work experience

African-Hungarian Union, December, 2007- present (part-time with full flexibility)

Tasks: consultancy, research, project management (human rights, culture, education, social welfare) in Africa (Angola, DRC, Kenya, Mali, Uganda among others). Country/ region specialist for the DRC and the Great Lakes Region.

European Parliament, office of Mrs. Zita Gurmai, MEP, June-July, 2011, Intern

Tasks: Consultancy, research (Gender, Sierra Leone)

Foundation for Africa, June 2004- February 2007, General Secretary

Tasks: project management (education, social welfare, culture).
Fundraiser (project proposals, charity events, grants)

Foundation for Africa, June 2002- June 2004, volunteer

Tasks: project management (education, social welfare, culture).
Fundraiser (project proposals, charity events, grants)

Field experience

Study visit, Zimbabwe, 2011 June

Visiting researcher (Ph.D. Candidate); University of Namibia, Department of Sociology, Windhoek; October-November 2010

ACP-EU Joint Parliamentary Assemblies; CONCORD Cotonou Aid Working Group; Rwanda -2007; Angola – 2009; DRC - 2010

4 wheels around 5 continents project; field expert, consultant; Cameroon, Gabon, Congo-Brazzaville, Congo-Kinshasa, Angola and Namibia; April-May, 2010

Olyata Village Project, Angola/ Kunene; fact finding mission leader; November, 2009

Torday-Congo Expedition; DRC; July- September 2009

Budapest-Bamako Humanitarian Rallies 2008, 2009

Do not cry anymore Somalia; project coordinator; Kenya; September, 2008

Do not cry Uganda; Faces of the world, project coordinator, Gulu, Uganda, November 2008

Children of the war project; mission leader; DRC, North and South Kivu. December 2007, 2008

Othniel Primary and Secondary School Rehabilitation; project coordinator; Kinshasa, Ngaliema; 2005-2006, 16 weeks

Countries visited: Angola, Burundi, Cape-Verde Islands, Cameroon, Democratic Republic of Congo, Gabon, Kenya, Mali, Mauritania, Namibia, Republic of Congo; Rwanda, Senegal, South-Africa, Uganda, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Member-ships

African-Hungarian Union (AHU), member – www.ahu.hu

African Research Center, University of Pécs, external researcher

Afrika tanulmányok (African Studies) review, external collaborator – www.afrikatanulmanyok.hu

CONCORD Cotonou Working Group, Brussels, expert – www.concordeurope.org

Culturafrica Foundation, President

EURAC, European network for Central Africa, external consultant

HAND- Hungarian Association of NGO-s for Development and Humanitarian Aid, Africa Working Group – www.hand.org.hu

PORT.hu Africa Expo and Fair, founder, project manager – www.africaexpo.hu

Royal Anthropological Institute- Junior Fellow Fellow

Torday-Congo Expedition and Project, project manager – www.congoexpedition.com

Zimbabwe Europe Network, Member of Board – www.zimbabwееurope.org

Lectures (some)

Concord Cotonou Aid Working Group, Lunch debate, moderator, 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, Brussels

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

Life and Work of Emil Torday. Several time, several date (Museum of Ethnography; Museum of Geography; University of Debrecen etc.)

Trade patterns of Bakuba artifacts 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 of the EU in international development. 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

Conferences (some)

The EU's approach to Somalia, 29 June, 2011, Brussels

The role of women in the democratization processes of North-Africa and the Middle-East, 21 June, 2011, Brussels

EU CSO Steering Group Consultation on the Joint Africa EU Strategy (JAES), 21-22 September, 2010, Brussels

International Africa Conference, 2010, May, Pécs

ACP- EU Joint Parliamentary Assemblies 2007-2010 (Kigali, Ljubljana, Prague, Angola, Tenerife, Kinshasa, Budapest)

Preparatory conference for the Hungarian EU Presidency, 2009

Africa unbound, Brussels, September 2007

Understanding EU development Cooperation, Vienna. June, 2007

Harambee, Africanist Conference. Budapest, December, 2006

The Africa conference. London. July, 2006

Sound of Africa conference. Vienna, June 2006

Africa day, 2005-2011

Exhibitions

'Mama Paula's kitchen and selection of kwanyama objects; curator; in László Magyar exhibition; Museum of Dunaföldvár; May 2011-

Congo. On the tracks of Emil Torday. Curator. Several place, several date. Budapest Congress Center- 21th ACP-EU JPA, May 2011/ Palais du Peuple- Kinshasa, 20th ACP-EU JPA, December 2010/ Nádor Gallery, Pécs – Cultural Capital of the EU, May, 2010/ Museum of Ethnography, Budapest, February 2010

Kinshasa, an African city under modernization. Curator. Museum of Dunaföldvár, May 2007- May 2009

Akilafote? Whose fault? Drawings of Congolese child soldiers. Curator. Several place, several date. Millenáris Park, Budapest/ Gödör Klub, Budapest/ Citadella Hotel, Budapest

Other activities

PORT.hu Africa Expo and Fair, 17-20th March 2011, HUNGEXPO Budapest Fair Center (www.africaexpo.hu)

Journal for African Studies, (www.afrikatanulmanyok.hu), external collaborator, 2008 - present

Editor of "Civil issues" of the Journal for African Studies, (www.afrikatanulmanyok.hu), 2008 January- 2008 December

Regular media and television interviews

Regular lectures and publications

Collection of traditional and contemporary African art

Contribution to the Africa collection of the Museum of Ethnography of Budapest by donating Congolese objects.

Media projects: Faces of the world with Kata Jaksity (Uganda, Kenya); Another Planet with Ferenc Moldoványi (DRC); Orphans of the world with Gabriella Jakupcsek (DRC); Afrimage Films (Mali; Cape Verde Islands)

Scholarships / Other awards

UNESCO YPP (YOUNG PROFESSIONALS PROGRAM) CANDIDATE, 2011 INTAKE
Interviewed in Paris, 18-20th July, Culture/Intangible Cultural Heritage

Visiting researcher, University of Namibia, 2 months, 2010
Visiting researcher, Royal Museum for Central Africa, Belgium, 3 weeks, 2008
Kleibelsberg Kuno Scholarship – British Museum, 1 month, 2008
ELTE Research fellowship, 2005, 2006
SARLO-JDC Tolerance Scholarship, 2004

Other Skills

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

Hobbies

Dancing salsa, reading, playing piano, traveling

Festivals / Art exhibitions attended

18. Nuit Africaine, Belgium, June 2011
Windhoek Show, Namibia, November 2010
Matonge en couleurs, Belgium, June, 2010
Mask up! Royal Museum for Central Africa, Belgium, May, 2009
National Festival of Gungu, DRC, 2007, 2009
Festival sur le Niger, Mali, February, 2007
Grand Magal de Touba, Senegal, February, 2008
Africa Feast, Hungary, annual, 2008-2011
Africa Day, Hungary, annual, 2006-2011
Visit of several exhibitions on African traditional and contemporary art

World Heritage sites visited in Africa

Dja Faunal Reserve, Cameroon
Virunga National Park, DRC
Ecosystem and Relict Cultural Landscape of Lopé-Okanda, Gabon
Fort Jesus, Mombasa, Kenya
Old Towns of Djenné, Mali
Bandiagara (Dogon), Mali
Medina of Marrakesh, Morocco
Medina of Essaouira (formerly Mogador), Morocco
Island of Gorée, Senegal
Bwindi Impenetrable National Park, Uganda
Rwenzori Mountains National Park, Uganda
Great Zimbabwe National Monument, Zimbabwe
Khami Ruins National Monument, Zimbabwe
Mosi-oa-Tunya/ Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe

Documentary films

Torday-Congo Films, 2011t: Vagenya fishermen at Stanley Falls/ Who is the best Gitenga?/ Witch, Demon, leave the body!/ Traditional and modern healing at the Leele/ Art never disappears.
Fetish and grelot, DRC, 2006

List of publications

Books:

Congo- On the tracks of Emil Torday. African-Hungarian Union, Budapest, 2010
The children of war. Child soldiers and child mothers at the Great Lakes region. Afribook, Budapest, 2008

Publications:

Matonge, a Congolese 'migrant-world' in Brussels. Migration among Africa and Europe in the 21st century. Publikon, December, 2011
Political violence against women in Zimbabwe, co-author Steve Kibble, Tradecraft review, October, 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.

University essays:

The change of material culture in the DRC (PHD, Thesis)
Social problems concerning youth in Kinshasa, June, 2007 (thesis, African studies)
Social change and material culture in the Congo. March, 2007 (thesis, Cultural Anthropology)
The influence of the Student Sponsorship Program of the Foundation for Africa in Kinshasa, Ngaliema district, Munganga, 2006
Music at the Bunda and the Pende in Kwilu district. 2006
Akilafote. Analysis of drawings of ex child-soldiers. 2005
Tradition-keeper dance groups in the Congo. 2005
Witchcraft of the Luba. 2005
Background of the Hutu-Tutsi conflict. 2004