

CURRICULUM VITAE

VILMOS KISZEL

motto: "in Alliance with Nature"

Personal

Name: Vilmos KISZEL
Date of Birth: 18th July 1955
Nationality: Hungarian Citizen
Family: Married, two daughters

Education

MA Astronomer and Planetary Scientist, Eötvös Loránd University, Budapest, 1979
MA Teacher of Physics and Technology, Eötvös Loránd University, Budapest, 1984
Private studies: biology, geophysics and environmental law
Languages: Hungarian mother tongue, English working language, French basic, commanding Slav languages

Current Position

Special Envoy on Environment of the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Hungary
President and CEO of Göncöl Foundation, IUCN Member NG/1233 since 1993

Professional Background

Nature conservation expert, World Bank/Black Sea Nutrient Reduction Project, 2008 – 2012
Guest Professor, Apor Vilmos University, Department of Sciences, Vác, 2005 –
Evaluation Team member, World Bank/Pilismarót dam project tender, 1998
Visiting fellow, Environmental Law Institute, Washington D.C., 1996
Publisher in Charge, Göncöl Foundation, 1992 – 1999
Director General, Göncöl Association, 1987 – 1991
Senior Adviser, Integral Consultancy Ltd. Budapest, 1986 – 1987
Research Fellow, Budapest Technical University, Budapest, 1980 – 1982
Secretary of Sciences, Hungarian Institute for Culture, Budapest, 1979 – 1986
Department staff, Eötvös L. University, Faculty of Natural Sciences, Budapest, 1978 – 1979
Guest student, Observatory of Paris and University of Nice, 1977

Other competences: diplomacy and negotiations; systemic thinking and global perspectives applications; organisational leadership and policy making; experienced lecturer and chair; facilitating meetings, participatory decision-making and conflict management; administrative and research team leader.

Environmental activist and educator for three decades. Well during the communist era, together with dedicated citizens successfully challenged the restrictive practices of the regime of Hungary by launching grass-root environmental and social initiatives which contributed to the peaceful transformation of the country from authoritarian rule to democracy.

Offices and Membership of Governing Bodies

Member, UNESCO Hungarian National Committee, 2012 –
Member, ESDN – European Sustainable Development Network, 2005 – 2008
Steering Committee Member, UNEP/TEMATEA on Biodiversity Conventions, 2004 –
Board member, CBD/Biodiversity Conservation Platform of Hungary, 2003 –
Ex-officio member, WHC/World Heritage Hungarian National Committee, 2002 –
Board member, Green Compass Foundation (Budapest), 2000 –
Board member, Ipoly Euroregion (Sahy/Slovakia), 2000 – 2006
Member, European Environment & Sustainable Development Advisory Councils, 1998 – 2007
Member, later Chairman, National Council on Environment of Hungary, 1996 – 2006
Chairman, Reconciliation Committee of Environmental Law of Hungary, 1992 – 1995

Experience and past involvement with IUCN

IUCN, Regional Councillor for East Europe, North and Central Asia, 2008 – 2012
IUCN, vice-Chair of Governance Committee of the Council, 2008 – 2012
IUCN, Member of Finance and Audit Committee of the Council, 2008 – 2012
IUCN Hungarian National Committee, started and elected Chair, 2002 – 2012
IUCN WCPA – World Commission on Protected Areas, member, 2000 –
IUCN CEL – Commission on Environmental Law, member, 1996 –
IUCN Member Göncöl Foundations' President and CEO, 1993 –

During this 20 years had important impact on IUCN policies, initiated to put natural resources into mission statement in 1994, first asked for governance taskforce in 1995, highlighted importance of internal communication in 2004.

Between 2008 – 2012 initiated and coached several motions to the Congress and Council decisions on governance and economic reform of IUCN, and contributed to essential policy matters in order to transfer IUCN to a membership driven, bottom up, modern organisation.

Other activities

Books

V. Kizsel: **Public well-being of forests in a Göncöl Kaleidoscope**. In I. Dobó – Z. Zétényi, editors: Forests for Public Well-being, ISBN 978 963 8251 66 4, Hungarian Foresters Association, 2007, Budapest

V. Kizsel: **Status Report on the Independent Green Media**. In I. Láng, editor: Environmental Science and Technology in Hungary, electronic book, English, Walters Kluwer, Budapest, 2005

V. Kizsel: **Dignity and quality of life**. In T. Pálvölgy, editor: 'Back or Where' on the way of sustainability, essays, ISBN 963 9387 07 X, Hungarian, Tertia Ltd., Budapest, 2002

V. Kizsel - S. Sersli: **Trends of Trans-frontier Co-operations**. ISBN 963 03 9746 3, English, Hungarian, Romanian and Slovak languages textbook, Ipoly Union, Balassagyarmat, 2000

V. Kizsel, editor, co-author: **Ecology for Land-users**. ISBN 963 03 4576 5, Hungarian textbook for post-gradual university students, Göncöl Foundation – ECNC, Vác –Tilburg, 1998

V. Kizsel: **Environmental policy of Antall Cabinet**. In András Gyekiczki, editor: The cabinet of change, study book, ISBN 963 04 2269 7, Hungarian, PTIA, Budapest, 1992

V. Kizsel - Á. Varga: **Fiery Tales of Constellations**. ISBN 963 01 8381 1, Hungarian, Göncöl Association, Vác, 1988

Film

V. Kizsel - G. Petz: **"Only me, who is breathing in you, you should know it, ... "** nature movie, Hungarian, Göncöl Foundation – ECNC, Vác – Tilburg, 1998

4 TV programmes on national parks, natural and cultural heritage, world heritage, responsible consumption, multilateral environmental agreements: biodiversity, climate, natural resources.

14 international projects on codification, trans-boundary areas, inventories, restoration, sustainable uses, ecological networks, water catchments, stakeholder negotiations. Most recent:

V. Kizsel – J. Horváth: **Integrated Green River-valley Strategy of the Danube bend**. Inventories and participatory planning, Hungarian, Göncöl Foundation, Vác, 2011

38 studies on protected areas, floodplain ecology, reviving ecosystems, climate changes, field education, civic movements, sustainability, responsible consumption, etc. Most recent:

V. Kizsel, editor, co-author: **Afforestation for carbon dioxide net emission reduction**. National programme plan (REDD), Hungarian, Göncöl Foundation, Vác, 2009

About 200 articles in public media

Awards

National Science Conference of University Students (1979)

“Pro Natura Prize” (1993)

“Conserving Nature” Silver Coin (2001)

“For Our Environment” Plaque (2001)

Vision for the future priorities and development of the Union

The global crisis calls for real changes in the Union. The current programme offers all the opportunities to do so. As a president I will provide the necessary leadership for this “new deal”

- help reposition IUCN for its role in the 21st century
- provide leadership to Council and the Union to make positive change happen
- reinforce IUCN’s unique identity and its global, national, regional presence,
⇒ **see Model Bylaws for National and Regional Committees;**
- stimulate a meaningful contribution of IUCN’s broadening membership and vast knowledge network to the IUCN Programme,
⇒ **see New Business Model**
- reinforce membership participation in decision-making,
⇒ **see Governance Principles;**
- promote enhanced services to the membership,
⇒ **see ‘One Programme’ Commitment;**
- work in the IUCN tradition of partnerships, continuity and stability, respecting IUCN’s invaluable heritage, organisational strengths and achievements.