



Kiara Worth

Worth Consulting

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Profile

Kiara Worth is a world traveller who uses her photographs and writing to reflect on the world. From international negotiations to community development, Kiara is a storyteller striving to connect people through captured moments and shared perspectives. She believes that storytelling has a transformative power and this guides her multiple facets of work, both professionally and personally.

Kiara currently works as a political photographer, tracking international negotiations on environment and development. She thrives in high-pressure situations and is comfortable in practically any corner of the globe. She spent more than five years in Papua New Guinea working as a photo-journalist, using her stories and photographs to communicate issues of sustainable development, and she has vast experience working across cultural and linguistic differences.

With a background in community and rural development, Kiara has consulted on numerous projects internationally ranging from environmental protection, building social resilience, and inspiring youth activism. She has a wealth of experience in training, facilitation and empowerment and uses her communication skills to focus on issues of sustainability and socio-economic equity. Based in Cape Town, South Africa, Kiara facilitates a community-based project focused on sustainability, which is also the focus of her PhD research in Political Science. She is a freelance writer and photographer, an ad-hoc university lecturer, and consults on youth projects around the country.

Kiara believes in an integration of work and personal life and this is captured in the extensive volunteering that she does globally. She is an intrepid adventurer and maintains a personal blog and photography collection entitled '[Living Fiercely](#)' where she aims to tell her own story, and in the process inspire other to do the same.

Skills

- Photography and basic photo editing
- Creative and technical writing
- Workshop facilitation, training and capacity building
- High-level strategic focus and management development for social action organisations
- Local, national and international mobilisation of multi-stakeholders to participate in global sustainability events, discussions, formal and informal negotiations
- International event coordination involving planning, fundraising and negotiating with multiple stakeholders
- Script writing and video production for training materials and information dissemination
- Application of sustainable livelihoods methodologies and participatory rural development methodologies for development projects at local, national and international levels
- Proposal and project formulation, implementation and evaluation
- Project management, planning, monitoring and evaluation

Professional Experience

Photographer and Digital Editor International Institute for Sustainable Development - Earth Negotiations Bulletin Internationally

January 2014 - Present

Member of the Earth Negotiations Bulletin (ENB) team that provides daily information from multilateral negotiations on the environment and development. Main responsibilities include engaging within a diverse and multifaceted environment to photograph and document all negotiations, recording both the process and outcomes on the ENB and official conference websites and multiple social media platforms. Conferences covered include the [Paris Climate Change Conference](#), the [Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm Conventions COP](#) in Switzerland, the [Montreal Protocol](#) in Rwanda, and the [Third International Conference on Small Island Developing States](#) in Samoa, among others. Numerous photos from these conferences have been published in the Guardian, the New York Times Blog, and Rolling Stone Magazine.

Post-Graduate Course Lecturer: University of KwaZulu-Natal South Africa

June 2014 - Present

Occasional course lecturer of Project Management in the context of human development for post-graduate students of the Rural Resource Management and Food Security faculties within the School of Agricultural, Earth and Environmental Sciences at the University of KwaZulu-Natal. Prepared and facilitated lectures over an intensive five-day period, engaging with students to provide project management theory, knowledge and tools, through participatory and interactive sessions. Also assessed students' progress, providing feedback and advice.

Writer, Editor and Writing Consultant South African Institute of International Affairs, South Africa

July 2015 - Present

Provide strategic consultation on project proposal development for youth focused programmes around the country. Provide writing workshops for youth diplomats and youth involved in sustainable development through the [South African Institute of International Affairs \(SAIIA\)](#). Edits, advises and works with youth to develop thought provoking articles for SAIIA's youth blog and provides occasional support for a variety of SAIIA projects.

Writer, Photographer, Publications Developer and Corporate Trainer Exxon Mobil PNG – PNG LNG Project Papua New Guinea

January 2012 – April 2015

Part of the Public and Government Affairs communication team for the [PNG LNG Project](#), the largest investment ever undertaken in Papua New Guinea. Primary responsibilities include the design and development of the [PNG LNG TokTok](#), a nationally distributed publication sharing photographs and stories from the field that reflect socio-economic activities undertaken by the Project. The development of the publication required extensive field work in remote villages, engaging within the most socially and environmentally diverse contexts in the world. Other publications included the [Corporate Citizenship Report 2014](#) for the Project and various other communication materials. In addition to this work was the design, development and implementation of a company-wide corporate training program to instil corporate values within this diverse environment. This process included the development of training materials and programmes, facilitation of interactive sessions, various media communications and games development, systematically implemented over two years across a diverse network of business professionals throughout the company.



**Organising Partner for Major Group for Children and Youth
UN Commission on Sustainable Development, UN Department for Economic and Social Affairs
(UNDESA)**

Internationally

May 2008 – February 2013

Organising Partner for the [Major Group for Children and Youth](#) (MGCY), one of nine civil society groups working with UNDESA to promote sustainable development internationally. As main coordinator, facilitated the mobilisation and participation of thousands of youth globally in the international policy development processes for the Commission on Sustainable Development (CSD). Served as Organising Partner for CSD 17-19 as communications and training lead. Served on the team of youth coordinators for the Rio+20 [UN Conference on Sustainable Development](#) held in Brazil in 2012. Designed, organised, planned and implemented the Rio+20 Youth Blast, an international youth conference for over 2,000 international youth delegates from over 100 countries, working in partnership with the Government of Brazil and multiple UN agencies. Served as main coordinator and communications lead for the MGCY at Rio+20, responsible for the daily organisation of all youth delegates, including policy negotiations, media briefings and press releases, security and civil society actions, while working closely with UN Security, governments and other organising bodies.

Community Development Consultant and Technical Writer

Esso Highlands Limited - PNG LNG

Papua New Guinea

January 2010 – December 2012

Worked on the Land and Community Affairs team of the [PNG LNG Project](#), designing and implementing community development projects throughout Papua New Guinea, as part of the single largest investment made in the country. Worked within a socially and environmentally diverse environment to organise, plan and coordinate projects, as well as develop communication materials to report on progress made. Work was focused on developing rural livelihoods, socio-economic enterprises, and capacity building programs, and advancing social development understanding at a corporate level.

Sustainable Development Specialist

Golder Associates

South Africa

January 2008 - December 2010

Member of the sustainable development division of [Golder Associates Africa](#), working on environmental and social development projects. Work included livelihoods and socio-economic analysis for community development strategies and projects at a provincial, national and international level, and strategic planning and fieldwork for community development implementation. Work focused on climate change adaptation, with responsibilities pertaining to climate change research and social communication for adaptation strategies, ensuring stability of socio-economic enterprises and food security. Primary focus was on community interaction within the sustainable development field, with use of theatre and the creative arts as a communication mechanism. Work was predominantly project based and involved a number of international projects, including South Africa, Sudan and Papua New Guinea.

Social Development Consultant

Zitholele Consulting

South Africa

June 2007 – December 2008

Member of the rural and agricultural development team at [Zitholele Consulting](#). Work included development of agricultural project proposals, project research, writing and presentation, development of training materials, social facilitation, and communications coordination for a



variety of projects implemented at a provincial and national level, involving a diverse set of stakeholders.

Provincial Tutor and Debater
Model United Nations South Africa and Education Africa
South Africa

January 2007 – December 2008

Provincial tutor for the [South African Model United Nations](#) program, involving youth in discussions on global issues, international relations and human rights. Served as a tutor for various provinces in South Africa, training, educating and preparing youth for national-level debates.

Volunteer Work

Coordinator of Fresh Air for Hout Bay, South Africa

2014 - Present

Coordinator of community group [Fresh Air for Hout Bay](#) focused on contributing to a healthier environment for the area. The group is working towards the creation of a long-term vision for Hout Bay to better influence development decisions, striving for an improvement in the socio-economics of the community as a whole.

Communications Materials Developer, Workshop Facilitator and Youth Trainer
YouThinkGreen, Germany

May 2013 - 2015

Key workshop facilitator for the [First World Youth Sustainability Summit](#), an international conference run by German-based [YouThinkGreen](#). Facilitated the development of the manifesto outcome document for the conference, representing a youth-led position paper on sustainable development. On-going activities include providing high-level strategic focus and management development to the organisation, while assisting with communications and operations.

Mentor and Speaker: Young Leaders Conference
South African Institute of International Affairs, South Africa

December 2012

Served as a mentor during the [Young Leaders Conference in 2012](#), developing a youth-led declaration document discussing relevant sustainable development topics, facilitated by the [South African Institute of International Affairs](#). Worked within a diverse context of government, the private sector, academia and the diplomatic corps to discuss issues related to international affairs, predominantly climate change and sustainable development, education and UN Security Council reform. Responsibilities included aligning discussions with current outcomes from the recent Rio+20 Conference on Sustainable Development and giving keynote addresses to the learners.

Theatre for Development Practitioner
Isithembiso Soxolo, South Africa

January 2007 – December 2009

Facilitator for a Theatre for Development community group aimed at discussing social issues through theatre and the creative arts. This two-year programme was comprised of weekly interactive sessions discussing a variety of social challenges with township youth, and positively promoting development, critical and virtues thinking. The programme culminated in the development of an original script and play *Roots of My Hope*, performed at the Mpophomeni Theatre and the National Bahá'í Youth Conference in Johannesburg, 2009. The workshops were filmed and featured on an SABC TV documentary focused on creative social development initiatives throughout the country.



Education

PhD Candidate – Political Science

2016 – currently studying

Thesis topic: The Politics of Power – how local power dynamics influence the achievement of sustainable development within deeply divided communities

University of the Western Cape, Cape Town, South Africa

Masters of Agriculture - Rural Resource Management

2008 - 2009

Thesis topic: Theatre for Change: Climate Change Knowledge Translation in a Peri-Urban Context

University of KwaZulu-Natal, Pietermaritzburg, South Africa

Bachelor of Agriculture, Honours

2007

Specialising in Rural Resource Management and Theatre for Development

Summa Cum Laude

University of KwaZulu-Natal, Pietermaritzburg, South Africa

Bachelor of Social Science

2004 - 2006

Majors in Rural Resource Management, Political Science and Drama

Cum Laude

University of KwaZulu-Natal, Pietermaritzburg, South Africa

Short Courses

Magazine Writing Course, SA Writers College

2013 - 2014

Writing course focused on all elements of the magazine writing industry. Completed course with high commendation.

DSLR Photography Course, Cape Town School of Photography

2013

Intensive short course on DSLR Photography, theory and practice.

Lightroom Course, Cape Town School of Photography

2013

Intensive short course on digital editing using Lightroom.

Hostile Environment Training, PNG LNG Project

2010

Practical skills and survival training for hostile environments.

Notable Achievements

Photographs published in the Guardian, New York Times Blog, Rolling Stone Magazine and numerous other publications for coverage of the Paris Climate Change Conference, 2015 and other climate related processes.

Winner of the Papua New Guinea Amateur Photography Competition 2013.

Winner of Best Duet of the Year, Papua New Guinea Music Awards 2013, for hit single [Solwara Mangi](#) performed with local musician Robert Oeka.



Published articles and photographs in the Papua New Guinean Our Way and Paradise airlines magazines, Vision City Magazine and other publications within the country.

Freelance journalist, publishing articles for the Rio+20 Conference on Sustainable Development official website, Earth Summit 2012, UN Youth Flash, and various national and international newspapers. Published short stories and poetry in a variety of independent books and publications.

References

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