

Profile of Limpopo MEC for Education:

MAARIA ISHMAEL KGETJEPE



Honourable

Maaria Ishmael Kgetjepe was born in the royal village of Mohlaletse, the traditional headquarters of Sekhukhune land. He is the descendant of the great warrior King Sekhukhune of the Bapedi.

Educational Achievements

He is a scholar of note who completed his Secondary Teachers Diploma at Sekhukhune College of Education.

- Bachelor of Arts Degree conferred by the University of South Africa
- Advanced Diploma in Labour Law with the then Rand Afrikaanse University now University of Johannesburg
- Master Diploma in Human Resources Management with Rand Afrikaanse University now University of Johannesburg
- Certificate in Municipal Management with the University of Natal
- Advanced certificate in Governance and Public Leadership with Wits Business School (WBS)

Currently studying for Masters in Public Administration with the University of Limpopo

Administrative Leadership

Hlabirwa is also an administrator who has distinguished himself in serving in different structures of public service.

- He served as the Head of Labour and Governance in the Department of Education Limpopo Provincial Government.
- Director Corporate Services at Ephraim Mogale Municipality
- General Manager (COO) at Sekhukhune District Municipality
- Municipal Manager at Sekhukhune District Municipality

Political leadership

Maaria is an astute and seasoned politician and a leader who have led the political structures at different levels starting from being a leader of the Student

Representative Council as the Deputy President at the then Sekhukhune College of Education.

After the unbanning of the political parties in 1990 he became one of the key activists to establish Sekhukhune Democratic Teachers Association which preceded the formation of National Education Union of South Africa (NEUSA). He was part of the leadership that spearheaded and canvassed for the formation of the South African Teachers Democratic Union (SADTU)

He served in the different structures of the African National Congress (ANC) as both the Provincial Executive Committee Member (PEC) and spokesperson. He was also appointed as the Regional Convener of the Sekhukhune region to rebuild the structures of the African National Congress.

He was elected as a Ward Councilor in 2001 after the first democratic local government elections in Fetakgomo Local Municipality and later sworn in as a Chief Whip. He was later deployed to serve in the Limpopo Provincial Legislature and appointed as the Chairperson of the Safety, Security and Liaison Portfolio Committee in 2009.

In July 2013 he was appointed as the Member of the Executive Committee of the Limpopo Provincial Government (MEC) to oversee the Department of Cooperative Governance, Human Settlement and Traditional Affairs (COGHSTA)

After May 2014 elections he was sworn in as a Member of the Limpopo Legislature and further appointed as the Member of the Executive Committee responsible for the Department of Health. He is now the MEC for Limpopo Department of Education.

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The Department is proud of the centrality of its role in society in terms of providing Quality public Education to all learners. We are subscribing to the true maxim that Education is a societal matter. All role players in education are indeed our partners

in pursuance of education revolution which must guarantee success and prosperity for