

Dr Andi Mabhala's manifesto to become ASPHER executive board member

ASPHER has a key function of educating and training public health professionals from different sociocultural backgrounds; therefore, it needs to recognise that understanding public health principles of social justice is embedded and shaped by sociocultural contexts. The more diverse sociocultural backgrounds are represented within ASPHER's education and training, the richer and deeper our understanding of public health. I bring to ASPHER executive board my sociocultural background as a South African and 26 years of experience as a public health specialist, academician and researcher. These sociocultural backgrounds and experiences shaped and deepened my commitment to research and teaching social justice as a foundation for public health strategy to tackle health inequalities.

ASPHER operates in a rapidly globalised society; its education provision needs to reflect a global outlook. In my 22 years as a senior academician established a track record of curriculum development and decolonisation of the curricula.

ASPHER is deeply committed to tackling health inequalities and advocating for vulnerable populations; this has been more evident during the ongoing SARS-CoV-2 pandemic. I bring extensive research advocacy expertise in the socioeconomic determinants of health and social justice inequalities.