

# Pindula

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## Christopher Mushohwe

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**Christopher Chindeti Mushohwe** is the former Minister of State in the President's Office Responsible for National Scholarships. He is the former Minister of Information, Media and Broadcasting Services. He was previously the Minister of Indigenisation and Economic Empowerment before being reassigned to the Ministry of information in 2015. He is a member of [Zimbabwe African National Union Patriotic Front](#) (ZANU PF). He is also a member of ZANU PF party's central committee, Director of the Presidential Scholarship Program and also The party's representative for [Mutare](#) west constituency in [Manicaland](#) province.<sup>[1]</sup>

Chris Mushowe



Born  
Nationality  
Occupation

Christopher Chindeti Mushowe  
Zimbabwe

- Minister of State in the President's Office Responsible for National Scholarships.\*

Employer  
Organization

Government of [Zimbabwe](#)  
[Minister of State in the President's Office](#)  
[Responsible for National Scholarships.](#)

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|                 |   |
|-----------------|---|
| Predecessor     | <a href="#">Prisca Mupfumira</a>                                |
| Political party | <a href="#">Zimbabwe African National Union Patriotic Front</a> |
| Opponent(s)     | <a href="#">Movement for Democratic Change</a>                  |

## Background

Mushohwe was born on the 6th of February in 1954 in Manicaland province.<sup>[1]</sup> He grew up in the same province in the eastern border town of Mutare. He graduated with a Masters Degree in Peace and Governance from [Africa University](#) in 2014.<sup>[2]</sup>

## Political career

Mushohwe is a former director at State House and also administers President [Robert Mugabe](#)'s foreign university scholarship scheme.<sup>[3]</sup> In the 2008 elections which saw the birth of the [Government of National Unity](#), Mushohwe lost the Mutare west seat to Shuah Mudiwa of the [Movement for Democratic Change](#) after he got 7,577 votes, slightly lower than his opponent's. Mushohwe was subsequently appointed as Resident Minister and Governor of Manicaland Province by President [Robert Mugabe](#) on August 25, 2008; in this capacity, he also served as a Senator.<sup>[4]</sup> After the July 31 harmonised elections which saw Robert Mugabe's ZANU PF retaining power, Mushohwe was one of the leaders allocated new posts in government. He was appointed Minister of State for Provincial Affairs in Manicaland province. He was in fact the first person to occupy the office of the minister of state for provincial affairs in the province in 2013 after the removal of the post of provincial governor under the new constitution. In 2014, the ZANU PF party was seriously affected by internal factional fights which saw the removal of senior leaders such as [Joyce Mujuru](#) from power. These fights also led to the dismissal of a number of cabinet ministers. This resulted in Mushohwe being elevated to the position of Minister of Indigenisation and Economic Empowerment replacing [Francis Nhema](#) who was alleged to have taken part in the political plots of the deposed vice president [Joyce Mujuru](#). He was sworn in as Minister of Information, Media and Broadcasting Services in September 2015 taking over from [Prisca Mupfumira](#) who was on an acting basis.

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## As Director of Presidential Scholarship Program

Mushohwe was tasked to lead Robert Mugabe's presidential scholarship initiative which supports local students by giving them opportunities to further their education in foreign universities especially in South Africa. Every year since its establishment in the late 1990s, the scheme has been recruiting hundreds of students who eventually return to Zimbabwe to work. During his tenure as the director, the scheme was marred by serious inconsistencies which saw the reduction of the number of students being enrolled under

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the scheme. There were also complaints that ,the beneficiaries of the scheme who were enrolled in various institutions in neighbouring South Africa were left to find finances to cater for their accommodation and food expenses since the program could not avail subsistence funds/grants for them. This is said to have reduced most of the students, most of whom came from less privileged families to beggars as they did not have viable sources of income. Mushohwe was accused of blaming the then head of the [Ministry of Finance Tendai Biti](#) for failing to avail funds for the presidential scholarship scheme.<sup>[5]</sup>

## Corruption Allegations/ Scandals

In 2014, Mushohwe was fingered in a case of corruption involving the [Marange-Zimunya Community Share Ownership Trust](#). It was alleged that Mushohwe, worked in cahoots with the former Minister of Indigenisation [Saviour Kasukuwere](#) and instructed at least one mining company in the diamond rich [Marange](#) area to deposit money into a bank account which was alleged to have been set for the Marange-Zimunya Community Share Ownership Trust. He was questioned in parliament by the head of the parliamentary portfolio committee on Indigenisation [Justice Mayor Wadyajena](#) and his testimony raised a lot of questions. Mushohwe, who is said to be President Robert Mugabe's point man in Manicaland, was caught hands deep in the cash till when it emerged he had been running the bank account in which diamond companies were to deposit the funds.<sup>[6]</sup>

Mushohwe was also involved in a messy battle for the control of a farm near his Beverly Estate (formerly Kondozi) with a newly resettled farmer. According to documents obtained one media house, the Nyamugure family was in June 2014 told to vacate its Wallacdale Farm in Odzi following Mushohwe's instructions.<sup>[3]</sup>

## Trivia

- Mushohwe was the first to hold the newly office of the Minister of State for Provincial Affairs in Manicaland Province in 2013.

## About Pindula

Pindula is a place to find information about local things on the internet. We do it a lot like Wikipedia, except everything is hyper-local. We started work on Pindula because we needed something like it. There's so little useful information about local things online and we're working to change that

To join the Pindula community of editors, please go to <https://contribute.pindula.co.zw/> or just get in touch with us on **WhatsApp: +263 77 770 7852**.

## References

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