

**The Impact of Implementation of Socio-economic Strategies
in the Amathole District Municipality:
A Review of the Environmental Policy**

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ABSTRACT The paper examines the impact of implementation of socio-economic strategies in the rural communities focusing on the case of Amathole District. The objective of this paper was to identify the strategic plans used by the ADM managers in implementing socio-economic strategies used for improving the rural communities in South Africa. This paper used a literature review methodology to unpack the strategic plans used by the ADM managers and its local municipalities in achieving successful socio-economic policy. Similarly, the study presented the findings pertaining to the impact of strategic plans used in implementing socio-economic strategies and provided measures or government actions that should be taken by the municipality management in their policy guidelines and procedures. The findings from previous studies revealed that indeed, the ADM Managers faced challenges in implementing socio-economic policy such as LED policy and practical steps that can be taken to address these challenges. The paper gives some contextual framework on the study and explores the ADM Integrated Development Plan (IDP) policy framework for implementation. This together with document analysis, were the sources of data used in the study. The implication of the findings are that unless the impediments stated above are rectified, the role of ADM managers in implementing socio-economic strategies on rural communities will continue to experience deprived socio-economic development and execute poor or substandard policy.