

**An Assessment of the Community Participation in the Budgeting  
Process of Amathole District Municipality in the  
Eastern Cape of South Africa**

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**ABSTRACT** This paper assessed the the community participation in the budgeting process of Amathole District Municipality (ADM) in the Eastern Cape of South Africa. The objective of the paper was to examine if the community are being involved in the budgeting process of ADM. The study used a review of documents for data collection in order to debates, critics, reflects and discusses various barriers affecting the community members from participating in the budgeting process in South Africa. The findings show that municipalities are not developing the effective capacity that would encourage the community to participate fully in their Integrated Development Plan (IDP) processes. Municipalities are not characterizing by a high standard of professional ethics. Undoubtedly, the finding of this paper would be useful to the members of the public, various Local Governments in South Africa and other African countries in order to achieve a successful community participation in the budgetary process. The paper finally suggested that the municipality should develop a strong capacity in community participation in the IDP process. Municipalities should be characterised by a high standard of professional ethics, efficiency and transparency.