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Development Monitoring and Evaluation Systems Enhancing Local Economic Development Outcomes in South Africa

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ABSTRACT South Africa is a developmental state and despite the efforts by government, local economic development (LED) has not progressed at the desired rate to uplift the quality of life of all citizens. A desktop research method was used to collect, collate and analyse policies, reports, legislation and current literature with the aim of proposing a development monitoring and evaluation (M&E) system that could enhance the outcomes and impacts of LED program and projects. To overcome the current challenges of poor performance and the lack of an effective LED framework, the Development Monitoring and Evaluation System framework proposes a participative approach to M&E where key stakeholder perspectives are considered and the on-going financial management is introduced throughout the M&E intervention process. The study is significant to the political and administrative public officials who engage in LED and have an oversight responsibility to ensure good governance through an accountable local government.