

Annex II

Nomination form for cities and local governments to participate in the campaign

Please send the nomination form and the mayor's letter to isdr-campaign@un.org. Nominations will be accepted on an ongoing basis throughout 2010-11.

City / Local Government (Please indicate the year the numbers were provided.)	
City name	Townsville (Townsville City Council)
Location (short description)	<p>Townsville is located about halfway (1,400 km) between the tip of Cape York and Brisbane. The Ross River flows from the foothills of the Hervey and Mount Stuart ranges to its outlet in Cleveland Bay, where the CBD's skyline is dominated by the distinctive Castle Hill and Magnetic Island lies just eight kilometres offshore.</p> <p>We have a dry tropical climate, with lower rainfall than elsewhere in the tropics. Average annual rainfall is 1143mm, on an average of 91 rain days, which mainly falls in the wet season between November and April. Our average daily temperature range is 18.8 degrees celcius to 28.1 degrees celcius.</p> <p>Our region is characterised by diverse landforms and natural environments. In the low lying coastal plain there are a number of rivers, creeks and freshwater wetlands. Hills and mountains rise out of the coastal plan, creating distinctive landmarks such as Castle Hill. The long coastline features beaches, mangroves estuaries, salt pans and coastal swamps.</p> <p>Townsville has a strong and diverse economy in which significant industries include retail trade, health and education services, government administration and defence, construction, mining, manufacturing, and property and business services.</p> <p>Together, Queensland Rail and the Port of Townsville provide a transport hub for the region's mining and agricultural industries, as well as for locally-based Xstrata Copper Refinery, Sun Metals Zinc Refinery, Queensland Nickel and the Queensland Sugar Corporation Distribution Centre.</p> <p>Our city is a major service centre, and the main centre for government administration outside Brisbane. Regional health services are provided by the Townsville Hospital. There are a number of research institutions such as James Cook University, the Australian Institute of Marine Science, the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority, Department of Primary Industries and CSIRO Davies Laboratory. The large defence presence due to our army and airforce bases also influences the local economy.</p>
Size (year)	Our local government area covers 3,736 square kilometres (0.2% of the total area of the State of Queensland) with a coastline of 230km, and is currently experiencing rapid residential development through the Northern Beaches growth corridor.
Population (year)	<p>Townsville is the largest city in North Queensland and one of the fastest growing cities in the state, in terms of population.</p> <p>As at 30 June 2009, the estimated resident population of Townsville City was 181,743 people, or 4.1% of the state's population.</p> <p>The average annual growth rate in Townsville between 2004 and 2009 was 3.2%, compared with 2.6% for the state. Between 2006 and 2031, our population is projected</p>

	<p>to increase by an average annual growth rate of 2.0%, Queensland is projected to have an average annual growth rate of 1.7% over the same period. Townsville's population in 2031 is projected to be 270,500 people; at the time this will account for 4.3% of Queensland's total population.</p>
GDP	<p>In 2008/2009, Townsville Gross Regional Product (GRP) was estimated to be \$9.8 billion. Since 2005/06 Townsville's economy has grown by 10.6% on average per annum (nominated GRP at factor cost) which is approx 2.0 percentage points higher per annum than the States' growth rate.</p> <p>This record has been driven by strong population growth, major public sector investment, connection to the minerals industry in Northwest Queensland and Townsville's role as the public and private sector service centre of North Queensland.</p> <p>Significant growth in particular has occurred in the construction, finance and insurance, rental and real estate services.</p> <p>Townsville has a highly diversified economy, with no one sector contributing more than 13 percent of output.</p>
Hazard type(s)	<p>The "All Hazards" Risk Assessment studies for the Townsville area have been completed and the strategies and outcomes adopted by Council. The main risks to the Townsville community and environment are:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Cyclone/Storm Tide 2. Flooding 3. Landslides 4. Tsunami 5. Bushfire <p>Other threats that have been identified are at a lower risk than those listed above.</p>
Name of Mayor / Commissioner / Governor / Community leader	
Mayor Les Tyrell	
Which part of the city administration will be the focal point for the Campaign?	
Townsville City Council's Emergency Management Section	
Contact details Focal Point	
Name	Allen Morris
Function	Manager Emergency Management
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Which local institutions will be engaged in the Campaign?

(In addition to the local government.)

- Mayor and Councillors
- Townsville City Council (Emergency Management Infrastructure Services, Strategic Planning, Knowledge Management, Community Services)
- Townsville Local Disaster Management Group
(membership consisting of: Airservices Australia; Australian Red Cross; Bureau of Meteorology Townsville; Coastguard Townsville; Department of Communities; Department of Defence - Director Operations & Training Area Management; Department of Education & Training; Department of Environment & Resource Management; Emergency Management Queensland; Ergon Energy; Main Roads; Port of Townsville Limited; Queensland Ambulance Service; Queensland Fire and Rescue Services - Rural and Urban; Queensland Police Service; Queensland Rail; Queensland Transport; Queensland Transport Maritime Safety Queensland; State Emergency Service; St John Ambulance Australia; Surf Life Saving Queensland; Telstra Country Wide; Townsville Airport; Townsville Aboriginal & Islanders Health Service; Townsville City Council; Townsville District Health Service - Queensland Health; Tropical Population Health Unit - Queensland Health; Volunteering North Queensland)
- Townsville community

Major Disaster Risks

(Please indicate major disasters that have occurred, prevailing hazards and vulnerable conditions.)

Cyclone

Cyclones are a frequent occurrence in the North Queensland region. Records show that Townsville has been affected by over 25 cyclones since 1867 with at least eight being listed as severe. The most recent event was Cyclone Yasi, a Category 5 system which crossed the coast north of Townsville in February 2011. The Bureau of Meteorology's website (<http://www.bom.gov.au/cyclone/about/eastern.shtml#history>) contains a full list of those cyclones which have threatened the Townsville region.

Stormtide

Townsville has developed on the flood plain adjacent to the Ross River and up to the coastal dunes. Many suburbs of this urban area and outer townships are located directly adjacent to the coast. These centres are within storm surge vulnerability areas.

Flooding

Localised flooding is experienced almost annually in Townsville during the wet season. Council has developed, and continues to upgrade, an extensive network of urban drainage, both below and above ground.

Tsunami

Several tsunami warnings in recent years have highlighted the vulnerability of the coastal areas of Townsville to inundation from this type of event. Information from Australia's tsunami Centre indicate that Townsville is within a moderate risk area for marine effects from a tsunami and a low-moderate risk from land inundation.

Bushfire

As Townsville is located within a dry tropics region, bushfires are experienced almost annually. The risk within the major urban areas is low due to the terrain and type of vegetation. However some outer rural areas can be and have been adversely affected by this event.

Achievements and plans in relation to the ten essentials areas

A - Make an estimation of the **status** per essential as follows:

1 - poor/nothing in place, 2 - some progress in place, 3 - in place, well functioning, or N/A

B - Please describe main areas of **progress** and **achievements**.

C - Please identify **activities** and **plans** your city will pay special attention to **improve the current situation** during the campaign and beyond. Additionally, feel free to propose special events or activities your city

would like undertake to raise awareness on disaster resilience. Please select the respective Essential(s).

Essential 1 – Risk reducing organization and coordination in place	Status - 3
Progress and achievements -	
<p>Plans – Council's Corporate Plan (2009-2014) identifies 'Disaster Management' as one of the key regional issues to ensure that our Vision of 'Townsville - vibrant, progressive and a great lifestyle' and our Mission - 'working with our community to provide services through commitment and leadership' are met. Council coordinates a detailed robust process, with input from local emergency service organisations, community groups, state government agencies and authorities, non-government organisations and the public, to prepare the residents for living in a tropical climate</p> <p>Council's Disaster Management Plans, as well as identifying disaster risks for this region, documents community awareness, preparedness, response and recovery processes for this range of threats</p> <p>Council's Emergency Management Unit ensures disaster management legislative requirements are met and support structure for the local community are in place.</p> <p>The Local Disaster Management Group is responsible for disaster management, planning, preparedness, recovery and response phases. Mitigation projects are funded and managed within Council's normal processes.</p> <p>Details of the TLDMG are available on Council's website http://www.townsville.qld.gov.au</p> <p>Council is committed to maintaining and resourcing State Emergency Services volunteer groups within this region</p>	
Essential 2 – Budget assigned	Status - 3
<p>Progress and achievements – Council's Annual Operational Budget includes the operations and staffing of the Emergency Management Unit, support for SES (over 200 members) plant and equipment, community education and awareness campaigns, Disaster Coordination Centre activities, exercises and internal staff training. This budget is approximately \$1.1 million annually.</p> <p>Recent commitments throughout Council's Annual Capital Budget include:</p> <p>Drainage/Flood Mitigation \$12.30 million</p> <p>Upgrade Flood Warning Network \$100,000.</p>	
Plans –	
Essential 3 – Risk assessment prepared	Status - 3
<p>Progress and achievements – Recent reports and studies analysing risk from natural disasters events in this local area include:</p> <p>'All Hazards' Risk Assessment Report</p> <p>Bushfire Study</p> <p>Landslip Study</p> <p>Earthquake Study</p> <p>Climate Change Adaptation Plan</p> <p>Hazard Mapping for region</p> <p>Evacuation Planning review currently in progress</p> <p>various Floodplain Studies</p> <p>Outcomes of these reports are included, where applicable to the Local Disaster Management Plan</p>	
Plans –	
Essential 4 – Investment in risk reducing infrastructure	Status - 3
<p>Progress and achievements - Council's 10 year Capital Works plan (available on Council's website) includes ongoing commitment to drainage and flood mitigation projects. Mitigation works highlighted in the studies</p>	

and reports listed above are included in the forward capital works planning proces	
Plans – s	
Essential 5 – Safe schools and health facilities	Status - 3
<p>Progress and achievements – Council's Emergency Management Unit presents disaster awareness sessions to local schools (primary and secondary) and community groups. Disaster management preparedness information packages are made available to all schools.</p> <p>In 2010, the TLDMG prepared and released a children's story book to raise cyclone awareness. Copies of the book "When Billy Wind Bob comes to Town" were given to all local schools and North Queensladn libraries. The Townsville hospital and other local privae health facilities are members of the TLDMG Health Working Group. This group meets at least twice per year and coordinates plans and management pf processes for disaster events.</p> <p>The Townsville General Hospital, moved to its present site in 2001, is housed in a modern structure built to a higher building standard. A major extension and ugrade program is currently being undertaken at the hspital which has been designed to be self sufficient during loss of services (power, water)</p>	
Plans -	
Essential 6 – Risk-compliant building regulation and land use applied	Status - 3
<p>Progress and achievements – Risk compliant building regulated land use applied. The following codes and regulations apply to the construction of buildings in the local region:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Building Code Australia Building Act 1975 Building Standards Regulation 1993 Building Fire Safety Regulation Body Corporate and Community Management Act Building Units and Group Titles Act Building and Other Legislation Amendment Act Building Services Authority Act Townsville City Plan Integrateed planning Act 1997 Local Government Act 1993 Queenslad Development Code State Planning Policy 1/03 guideline: mitigating the adverse impacts of flood, bushfire and landslide State Coastal Management Plan-Mitigating the Effects of Storm Tide Inundation <p>Legislation</p> <p>The following legislation is relevant to disaster management activities :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Agricultural Chemicals Distribution Control Act 1996 Ambulance Service Act 1991 Chemical Usage (Agricultural and Veterinary) Control Act 1988 Coastal Protection and Management Act 1955 Dangerous Goods Safety Management Act 2001 Disaster Management Act 2003 Environmental Portection Act 1994 Exotic Diseases in Animals Act 1981 Explosives Act 1999 Fire and Rescue Services Act 1990 Public Health Act 2005 Integrated Planning Act 1997 Land Act 1994 Liquid Fuel Supply Act 1984 Local Government Act 1993 	

<p>Marine Parks Act 1982 Native Title (Queensland) Act 1992 Nature Conservation Act 1992 Petroleum Act 1923 Public Safety Preservation Act 1986 Terrorism (Commonwealth Powers) Act 2002 Water Act 2000 Workplace Health and Safety (Miscellaneous) Regulation 1995</p>	
<p>Plans – Land Use Management Council is currently preparing a new planning scheme for the area. The Plan is due for release in 2012 and will incorporate the findings from the recently completed "All Hazards" Risk Management Study. Development under the requirements of the existing Town Plan is subject to: Flood modelling and floor level heights above adopted frequency events Bushfire hazard Hill slope stability Overlay codes and assessment tables exist for: Acid sulphate Soils Overlay and Code Airport and Aviation Facilities Overlay and Code Biodiversity Overlay and Code Bushfire Prone Areas Overlay and Code Cultural Heritage Features Overlay and Code Good Quality Agricultural Land Overlay and Code Mining and Extractive Resource Area Overlay and Code Steep and Unstable Lands Overlay and Code Water Resource Catchment Overlay and Code Waterways and Wetlands Overlay and Code</p>	
<p>Essential 7 – Education programmes and training in place</p>	<p>Status - 3</p>
<p>Progress and achievements – The Emergency Management Unit delivers an annual community disaster management awareness campaign as per the TLDM Community Awareness Sub Plan. The campaign concentrates on wet weather and cyclone events (the highest risk from North Queensland weather) but also includes tsunami, landslide, bushfire and pandemics. A summary of this information is available on Council's website. The campaign includes: Presentations to schools and community groups Presentations to companies and organisations that support aged and disabled residents TV and radio advertising Billboard advertising Contribution to the local print media 'Cyclone Survival Guide' (approximately 70,000 distributed each year) Social networking on Facebook and Twitter Council's website dedicated to disaster information prior, during and immediately after an event Advertisements in local publications Displays at community events (weekend markets, etc) including a 'Cyclone Sunday' event held annually prior to the wet season Annual training and exercises with the LDGM and associated staff of various organisations</p>	
<p>Plans -</p>	
<p>Essential 8 – Ecosystems and natural buffers protected</p>	<p>Status - 3</p>
<p>Progress and achievements - The 'Climate Change Adaptation Plan' for the Townsville area has highlighted that the impacts of climate change will have an affect on the developed areas. The extreme risks for the area (based on 2030 and 2070 predictions) include: increasing storm surge</p>	

more intense tropical cyclones
 sea level rise
 more intense rainfall
 maximum temperature increase.

Outcomes of this plan are considered in Council's LDMP and risk strategies. Works currently being undertaken to incorporate these risks include:

- Review of evacuation plan and upgrading of evacuation routes
- Review of evacuation centre locations
- Enhancing community and business awareness of risk associated with tropical weather
- Updating disaster management mapping to incorporate latest risk analysis information

Council's Integrated Sustainability Department is recognised as one of the leaders in this field in local government. Programs currently being evaluated include:

- Urban Nature Program - A commitment to planting 10,000 trees per year with school and community involvement
- City Solar - Townsville is Queensland's only Solar City as part of the Australian Government initiative to showcase innovative ways to generate, use and conserve electricity
- Solar Learnscape - Council utilised funds from Australian Government Regional and Local Infrastructure Program to develop a solar 'learnscape' on the roof of the Administrative Building which will reduce the building's cooling load while capturing energy from the sun.
- Creek to Coral Program- aims to maintain and enhance healthy waterways within the region
- Shoreline Erosion Management Plans - which provide long term coastal management approach to foreshore protection

Details of these and other such programs are available on Council's website

Plans –

Essential 9 – Early warning systems installed

Status - 3

Progress and achievements – Facebook, Twitter and the World Wide Web are extensively used by Council to assist to notify the local community of impending events and/or advice and actions to be considered after an event. Council has a free emergency alert system in place via Early Warning Network to give residents more time to prepare for an imminent emergency. Specific local messages are sent from the TLDMG via SMS on mobile phones, messaging to fixed line phones and emails to residents in areas that may be affected and who have subscribed to this service (currently about 18,000)

Council also has access to the State Government Alert System which can blanket all phones in an area with general messages regarding impending events

Plans -

Essential 10 – Needs-based (survivors) reconstruction

Status - 3

Progress and achievements – The Townsville Local Community Recovery Plan details immediate, short, mid and long term response processes for disaster events. The processes with this plan engage all levels of the community (government and the public) in preparing and implementing processes to coordinate this following areas of construction:

- Human and Social
- Economic
- Environment
- Building Recovery
- Roads and Transport
- Community Liaison and Communication .

Council is also a key member of the District Community Recovery Committee, a State Government-led group

with membership across a range of local, state and federal government and non-government agencies. It plans for, and coordinates, the delivery of more 'longer term' community recovery services to people affected by disasters. Recovery planning and coordination in the Townsville district is underpinned by the principles of:

Understanding the community context

Recognising the complex and dynamic nature of emergencies and communities

Using community-led approaches

Ensuring a planned, coordinated and adaptive approach

Employing effective communication with affected communities and stakeholders

Acknowledging, supporting and building on community, individual and organisational capacity.

All three levels of Government (Local, State and Federal) provide funding under the Natural Disaster Relief and Recovery Arrangements (NDRAA) to repair damage caused by disaster events - such as; physical infrastructure (roads, rail, bridges etc) and personal hardship payments. The NDRAA arrangements are aimed at assisting the community to recover from a disaster event. The guidelines can be found on line.

Plans -