

ACELG



A Dangerous Season...!

Quick chronology

Sept - floods in south west

Nov - series of monsoon troughs

widespread flooding in central, sth west and north west regions

Dec-Jan - cyclones & storms

river floods, flash floods, isolation of properties

Rockhampton, Condamine, Theodore, Emerald impacted

Cyclone Tasha crosses the coast 25 Dec



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Quick chronology (cont)

Jan - storms, floods in SEQ

Toowoomba "storm event"

Lockyer Valley, Ipswich & Brisbane floods

Gympie, Maryborough floods

TC Anthony crosses coast 31 Jan

On Jan 2nd there were 17 evacuation centers and more than 200,000 people affected

And then there was Yasi... 2-3 Feb

Complete destruction of many homes in smaller towns

Storms and floods continuing.



The Damage

36 people deceased from flood and cyclone-related events

73 local government areas disaster activated under the
Natural Disaster Relief and Recovery Arrangements –
100% of Queensland

>9547 kilometres of state roads affected

>29 per cent of Queensland's rail network damaged

250,000 homes and businesses have had their power
restored by Energex and an additional 190,000 have been
restored by Ergon Energy

50,082 applications for emergency assistance grants –
more than \$18 million paid



The Damage

10,649 applications for essential household contents grants
– more than \$7.2 million paid

More than \$5 billion estimated for flood restoration and
reconstruction costs

More than \$800 million estimated for Tropical Cyclone Yasi
restoration and reconstruction costs

74,355 claims reported by the Insurance Council of
Australia with an estimated reserve of \$2.517 billion

54 coal mines affected, amounting to 15 million tonnes of
coal or \$2.5 billion



The Hidden Costs

Mental “wellness” in the community

Est. US\$1.1B in “sickies” and reduced productivity
following Hurricane Katrina

Anticipate a 1% increase in prevalence of severe
mental illness

Post Traumatic Stress Disorder symptoms
expected in:

30-40% of those directly affected

10-20% of emergency service/recovery workers



The Recovery

Focus on more than just infrastructure replacement
•rebuilding more “resilient communities”

3 Key Streams to rebuilding wellbeing and recovery :
Community Development, Community Mental
Health, Community Social Services

Local Government would play a key role in either facilitating
or supporting community recovery through a Community
Development model at the local level

Importance of:

Local Government engaging existing community & social services
to assist in support local recovery

