

Monsoon | Yeppoon, Queensland



- Total Project Cost \$73,500
- RAF Funding \$19,500
- Leveraged Funds \$54,000
- Partnerships | funds sourced from local government, disaster recovery and a private philanthropic trust

* As the project expanded beyond its original parameters and the professional performance was only realised in November 2017, complete figures are not yet available.

Monsoon explored the impacts of a natural disaster in a regional community. Recording real stories, the project celebrated the resilience of a community while using humour and a tongue-in-cheek approach to ponder on our human foibles and often irrational responses to an imminent threat, a Category 5 Tropical Cyclone. A celebration of the strengths inherent in our community, the musical provided developmental opportunities for local songwriters and performers, directors and production technicians, both professional and emerging talents, to work with an experienced playwright developing their material.

Benefits to the community included:

- *Monsoon* has had social development impacts in terms of a larger community sharing in a disaster recovery process together
- Project documentation from inception has been extremely valuable to translating and sharing the impact of the project to a wider audience
- The collaborative nature of this project has allowed it to grow and develop into the more universal theatre piece that it has become.
- As there was support for the project from the local council's Disaster Recovery Unit, this resulted in assistance with access to school and community groups and provision of counselling and support for participants as necessary
- All professional artists involved were from regional locations, both local and further afield.

Future Impact:

- The cultural impact is long-term as for Keppel Coast Arts Council, this was their first full-scale theatre production working with professional artists. The knowledge and skills learnt, along with the exposure the group has received and the partnerships formed will have long-term outcomes for the Arts Council and their community.