Cairns Esplanade, Queensland

Tract Consultants in conjunction with Cox Rayner won a National Design Competition in September 1998, for the $25 million redevelopment of the Cairns Esplanade.

The concept is designed to reflect and provide renewed waterfront recreational diversity for the people of Cairns. It is planned to help revive the CBD heart, and to create a unified vision of public accessibility and recreational amenity with CITYPORT.

Construction of the lagoon and the esplanade board walk took nearly 3 years and was opened to great fan fair in May 2003.

The Cairns Esplanade redevelopment received the Australian Award for Urban Design Excellence in December 2003.

The concept offers diverse experiences for all people and is simultaneously designed as:

- a marine ecopark capable of worldwide recognition for the enjoyment of the community and its visitors;
- a swimming lagoon and park for families, children, and 'children at heart';
- a microcosm of Pacific, Far North and local Regional culture and craft;
- an outdoor stage for performances and additional recreational space;
- an educational resource for Cairns' people and its visitors to interpret the great natural and cultural asset of Cairns and its region.