

## PDC plays vital role in supporting Afghanistan aid efforts

PDC plays an important role in the Asia Pacific region by providing timely information and analyses in support of the disaster management community and humanitarian relief missions.

PDC's recent assistance as part of the *Central Asia Interagency Humanitarian Relief Information Effort* helped relief groups facilitate, plan for, and deliver food supplies to refugees in remote areas along Afghanistan's borders during the conflict in 2001.



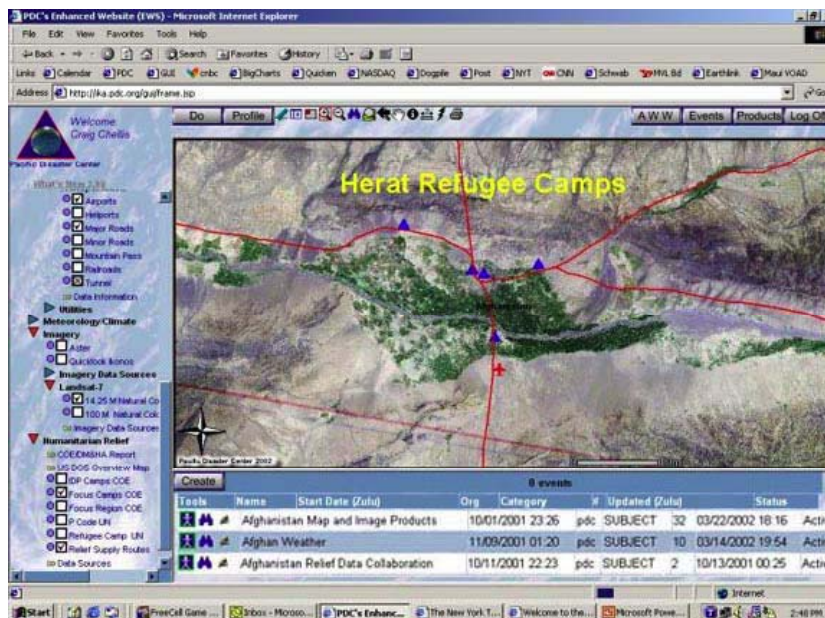
Decision and Policy Support



Humanitarian Assistance Support



Security and Sustainability



*PDC's website became the only real-time portal for situational awareness for decision makers in the field.*

PDC was instrumental in aiding Afghanistan humanitarian efforts by providing critical planning information on its Geographic Information System (GIS)-based website. Support services included analysis of information on refugee site locations, populations at risk, transportation infrastructure, supply depot locations, and natural resources with respect to dynamic daily weather imagery, situation reports, and extended climatological outlooks.

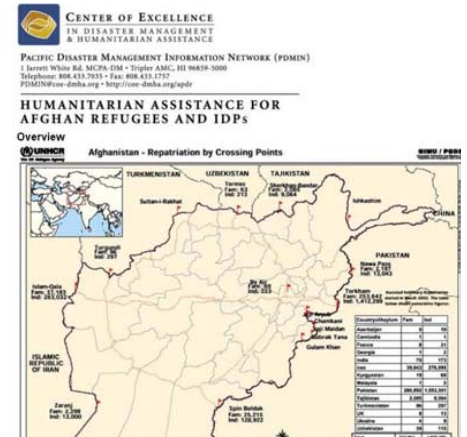
As part of an interagency task force, PDC created an internationally available website that collected, coordinated, and managed 15 sources of data to assist the United States and international community in the short-, intermediate-, and long-term planning for humanitarian assistance and reconstruction of Afghanistan. Under sponsorship of the U.S. State Department, PDC was part of the Afghanistan Interagency Working Group, and mapped dynamic geospatial information in support of the *Central Asia Interagency Humanitarian Relief Information Effort*.

## Integrating information

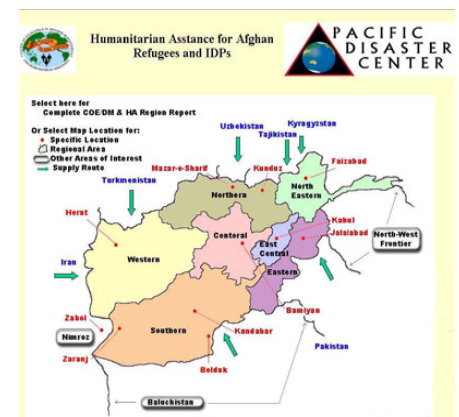
PDC's primary role was that of an information integrator. That is, it developed a GIS environment in which users could look at how different elements relate to each other, in addition to reformatting inputs so that the 'display' had a common look and was accessible to users with varying Internet capabilities.

PDC also translated high-level requirements, coordinated these requirements with data and information providers, and ensured that the products were made available to a broad spectrum of users.

PDC's website became the only real-time portal for situational awareness for the decision-makers in the field. Links were created to new websites, where appropriate, for access to information made available by other agencies or organizations. The latter effort took many forms from paper maps, to CD-ROMS, to an interactive website.



*The Center of Excellence in Disaster Management and Humanitarian Assistance produced a weekly summary report on the situation in Afghanistan.*



*PDC created a version of the report on its enhanced website that allows readers to access the document interactively through a clickable map.*

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*Mission: To provide applied information research and analysis support for the development of effective policies, institutions, programs and information products for the disaster management and humanitarian assistance communities of the Asia Pacific and beyond.*

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