



PROFILE SERIES
INTERNATIONAL
CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT



Project Profile: Vietnam

Vietnam is particularly vulnerable to typhoons, flooding, and landslides. From 1990 to 2010, storms and floods killed more than 10,000 people and caused significant damage to property and infrastructure. Experts predict that Vietnam will likely be among the countries most severely affected by climate change and related sea-level rise.

PDC's long history of supporting Vietnam in its efforts to reduce disaster impacts includes enhancing human capacity, coordinating international networking, and developing tools to support informed and timely decision making.



Sharing International Expertise

- In 2005, PDC partnered with national agencies in Vietnam to host an international landslide risk reduction workshop in Hanoi. Participants from the sciences, engineering, and research sectors shared “best practices” with Vietnam’s disaster management and planning professionals
- In 2007, PDC organized an international workshop titled “Best Practices in Disaster Management: Disaster Risk Assessment and Early Warning Systems” to enhance skills in flood modeling and risk assessment within Vietnam.

Building Human Capacity

- In 2009-10, PDC designed an Education and Training Program and delivered it to nearly 100 disaster management professionals representing Vietnam’s key national and provincial government agencies, as part of the World Bank-funded Natural Disaster Risk Management Project.
- In 2011, PDC evaluated the management of post-disaster assistance in Vietnam, including the accuracy and completeness of current damage and needs assessment (DANA) reporting and the effectiveness of the Government of Vietnam’s special accelerated procedures for estimating reconstruction costs. Recommendations were made to enhance DANA and streamline the allocation of recovery funds to ensure the most severely impacted communities receive aid.



PDC’s Hazard Mitigation Specialist Sharon Mielbrecht helps participants assess flood risk during the “Best Practices in Disaster Management” workshop held in Hanoi.

HOW CAN PDC HELP YOU?

PDC will listen to your needs, help identify gaps, and assist in crafting right-sized disaster management solutions.

We Offer:

- Early warning, risk assessment, and modeling and visualization solutions
- Training and strategic advisory services
- Assistance in identifying funding sources or support partners
- Online technologies to efficiently deliver services and support sustainability



Phone: + 1.808.891.0525

Email: info@pdc.org

Web: www.pdc.org

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PDC is an applied science, information and technology center, established by the U.S. Government in 1996, currently managed by the University of Hawaii.



Typhoons and floods threaten the lives and livelihoods of the millions of people who live along Vietnam’s coastline and fish its waters.

Enhancing Information Technology

- In 2007, PDC collaborated with Vietnam’s Central Committee for Flood and Storm Control (CCFSC) on a pilot study that included deployment of a prototype flood hazard warning system to support decision making by provincial and national disaster managers. Phu Tho Province, through which flows the Red River, was selected as the study area due to its importance in mitigating flood impacts to Hanoi.
- In 2010, under a grant from the U.S. Trade and Development Agency (USTDA), PDC began implementing a system for disseminating flood warnings to disaster management agencies for Vietnam’s central coastal provinces. The customized prototype of PDC’s DisasterAWARE decision support system integrates a Vietnamese language user interface with real-time weather and flood observations and forecasts, as well as warnings and bulletins from Vietnam’s CCFSC.

