Protest Actors in Sub-Saharan Africa
Supplement to Monkey Cage Post on Anti-U.S. Military Protests in Ghana

Rachel Sigman
Assistant Professor, Naval Postgraduate School
rlsigman@nps.edu

This document explains the steps taken to arrive at statistics on protests led by political parties in Ghana relative to the other sub-Saharan African countries. The statistics are based on data provided by the Social Conflict Analysis Database (SCAD) (Saleyhan and Hendrix, 2017).

My coding steps are as follows:

- I use data from all sub-Saharan countries for the period 2000-2016. I exclude the North African countries of Egypt, Algeria, Libya, Tunisia and Morocco.
- Using SCAD's **etype** variable I include events coded as the following: organized demonstration (1), spontaneous demonstration (2), organized violent riot (3), spontaneous violent riot (4), general strike (5), limited strike (6). I exclude events coded as armed conflicts (-9), pro-government violence (8), anti-government violence (9), extra-government violence (10), intra-government violence (11).
- Using SCAD's **issue note** variable, I exclude events directly related to elections since these are not the kinds of protests addressed in the Monkey Cage piece.
- Using SCAD's **actor1** variable, I create a dummy variable coded 1 for any event in which the actor1 is a political party, supporters of a candidate or political party, or supporters of the government in power. All others are coded 0.
- For each country, I then calculate the percentage of events that are coded 1, meaning that they are led by a political party or group of political supporters. These are the events in which we would expect to see a political logic of mobilization as described in the blog post.

The resulting statistics show that 7 out of 29 (24.14%) of protest events in Ghana during this period were led by political groups. The total number of protest events led by political groups in sub-Saharan Africa during this period was 515 out of 4,529 (11.37%).

Results broken down by country are as follows:

Country	Number of Protest Events NOT Led by Political Groups	Number of Protest Events Led by Political Groups	Percent Led by Political Groups	Total Number of Protest Events
Angola	34	8	19.1%	42
Benin	29	4	12.12%	33
Botswana	9	1	10%	10
Burkina Faso	59	9	13.24%	68
Burundi	101	8	7.34%	109
Cameroon	62	4	6.06%	66
Central African Republic	124	4	3.12%	128

Chad	46	10	17.86%	56
Cote d'Ivoire	163	20	10.93%	183
Dem. Republic of Congo	137	32	18.93%	169
Eritrea	5	0	0.00%	5
Ethiopia	78	5	6.02%	83
Gabon	47	8	14.55%	55
Gambia	11	5	31.25%	16
Ghana	22	7	24.14%	29
Guinea	110	19	14.73%	129
Guinea-Bissau	40	6	13.04%	46
Kenya	278	21	7.02%	299
Lesotho	5	0	0.00%	5
Liberia	68	1	1.45%	69
Madagascar	52	16	23.53%	68
Malawi	84	10	10.64%	94
Mali	86	7	7.53%	93
Mauritania	72	13	15.29%	85
Mauritius	7	0	0.00%	7
Mozambique	41	5	10.87%	46
Namibia	9	0	0.00%	9
Niger	99	12	10.81%	111
Nigeria	689	64	8.50%	753
Republic of Congo	11	3	21.43%	14
Rwanda	6	2	25.00%	8
Senegal	107	14	11.57%	121
Sierra Leone	53	5	8.62%	58
Somalia	84	2	2.33%	86
South Africa	430	36	7.73%	466
South Sudan	12	1	7.69%	13
Sudan	221	21	8.68%	242
Swaziland	54	7	11.48%	61
Tanzania	43	20	31.75%	63
Togo	40	16	28.57%	56
Uganda	63	13	17.11%	76
Zambia	82	15	15.46%	97
Zimbabwe	241	61	20.20%	302
Total	4,014	515	11.37%	4,529