USER GUIDE TO THE CCAPS CONFLICT DASHBOARD
TABLE OF CONTENTS

About the CCAPS Program .................................................................1
Introduction ........................................................................................2
Getting Started ..................................................................................4
  Using Filters ...................................................................................4
  Viewing Features .............................................................................5
Using Advanced Filters ......................................................................8
  SCAD Conflicts .............................................................................8
  ACLED Conflicts ........................................................................11
Downloading Data ............................................................................13
Sharing Maps ..................................................................................13
Data Sources ..................................................................................14
ABOUT THE CCAPS PROGRAM

The Climate Change and African Political Stability (CCAPS) program conducts research in three core areas, seeking to investigate where and how climate change poses threats to stability in Africa, identify strategies to support accountable and effective governance in Africa, and evaluate the effectiveness of international aid to help African societies adapt to climate change. The CCAPS program is a collaborative research program among the University of Texas at Austin, the College of William and Mary, Trinity College Dublin, the University of Denver, and the University of North Texas.

The CCAPS program is funded by the U.S. Department of Defense’s Minerva Initiative, a university-based, social science research program focused on areas of strategic importance to national security policy. Through quantitative analysis, GIS mapping, case studies, and field interviews, the program seeks to produce research that provides practical guidance for policy makers and enriches the body of scholarly literature in this field. The CCAPS team seeks to engage Africa policy communities in the United States, Africa, and elsewhere as a critical part of its research.

For more information, visit www.strausscenter.org/ccaps.
INTRODUCTION

The CCAPS program released its first dynamic mapping tool in February 2012, providing an integrated look at how the issues of climate change vulnerability, conflict, and aid intersect in Africa. The CCAPS Mapping Tool, which was developed in partnership with AidData using Esri’s ArcGIS platform, allows users to select and layer any combination of CCAPS data onto one map to assess how myriad climate change impacts and responses intersect. This integrated mapping tool is available at www.strausscenter.org/ccaps/mappingtool.

Following the successful release of the mapping tool, CCAPS worked with Development Gateway to create several thematic dashboards to provide in-depth examination of each research area under study on the program. In February 2013, CCAPS released the CCAPS Conflict Dashboard, which brings together mapping, trends analysis, and raw data so that users can visualize emerging and historical conflict trends in Africa. Users can also analyze how these trends relate to a range of socioeconomic factors.

The dashboard utilizes two conflict datasets from the CCAPS program. The Social Conflict in Africa Database (SCAD) provides the first systematic tracking of a broad range of social and political unrest in Africa, including protests, riots, strikes, inter-communal conflict, government violence against civilians, and other forms of social conflict. At its launch, the dashboard included over 7,900 social conflict events from 1990 to 2011, with new data updated each year to provide detailed information on the location, timing, and magnitude of social conflict events, as well as the actors and issues involved.

The Armed Conflict Location and Event Dataset (ACLED) provides near real-time tracking of armed conflict in Africa, with data updated monthly. ACLED tracks the actions of opposition groups, governments, and militias in Africa, specifying the exact location and date of battle events, transfers of military control, headquarter establishment, civilian violence, and rioting. At its launch the conflict dashboard included over 60,000 armed conflict events from 1997 to 2013, with new data updated monthly.
The CCAPS Conflict Dashboard is an online portal that enables analysts to assess high-level conflict trends and detailed event data simultaneously.
GETTING STARTED

The CCAPS Conflict Dashboard is available at www.strausscenter.org/ccaps/mapping-tool.html.

USING FILTERS

**Country:** The default setting is “all selected.” Use the country filter to select specific countries. The country list includes:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
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</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Algeria</td>
<td>Gambia</td>
<td>Rwanda</td>
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<tr>
<td>Angola</td>
<td>Ghana</td>
<td>Sao Tome and Principe</td>
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<tr>
<td>Benin</td>
<td>Guinea</td>
<td>Senegal</td>
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<td>Botswana</td>
<td>Guinea-Bissau</td>
<td>Seychelles</td>
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<td>Burkina Faso</td>
<td>Kenya</td>
<td>Sierra Leone</td>
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<td>Burundi</td>
<td>Lesotho</td>
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<td>Cameroon</td>
<td>Liberia</td>
<td>South Africa</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cape Verde</td>
<td>Libya</td>
<td>South Sudan</td>
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<tr>
<td>Central African Republic</td>
<td>Madagascar</td>
<td>Sudan</td>
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<tr>
<td>Chad</td>
<td>Malawi</td>
<td>Sudan-South Sudan Disputed</td>
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<tr>
<td>Comoros</td>
<td>Mali</td>
<td>Swaziland</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cote d’Ivoire</td>
<td>Mauritania</td>
<td>Tanzania</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Democratic Republic of the Congo</td>
<td>Mauritius</td>
<td>Togo</td>
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<tr>
<td>Djibouti</td>
<td>Morocco</td>
<td>Tunisia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Egypt</td>
<td>Mozambique</td>
<td>Uganda</td>
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<tr>
<td>Equatorial Guinea</td>
<td>Namibia</td>
<td>Western Sahara</td>
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<td>Eritrea</td>
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<td>Ethiopia</td>
<td>Nigeria</td>
<td>Zimbabwe</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gabon</td>
<td>Republic of the Congo</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

![Country filter](image)
**Layers:** Users can layer different datasets onto the map simultaneously. Data layers available include ACLED Conflict Events, SCAD Conflict Events, GDP Per Capita (World Bank), Population Density (AfriPop), Ethnic Power Relations (EPR), and Poverty Rates (Harvest Choice). Note that social conflict data and armed conflict data cannot be layered at the same time.

**VIEWING FEATURES**

**Legend:** The legend is located on the bottom left corner of the conflict dashboard. Click on the “+” sign to expand the legend. The legend adjusts to what is filtered for display on the map.
**Basemaps:** The default basemap is “oceans.” Users can select a variety of underlying basemaps by clicking on the “Basemaps” button.

**Timeline:** Use the scroll bar at the bottom of the conflict dashboard to select dates of interest for analysis.

**Raw Data:** The interactive chart at the bottom of the conflict dashboard allows users to sort data by variables of interest. Data can be sorted by event ID, country, location, date, event type, actors, fatalities, and other variables specific to each conflict dataset.
**Graphs:** On the right side of the screen, graphs display ACLED data by type of event, actor, and interaction between actor types, and display SCAD data by type of event, issue, and government response (repression). Data can be displayed by number of events or number of fatalities. Data can also be displayed as bar, area, or line graphs. Click on the “i” button in the top lefthand corner of the graph for the legend.

**Event Details:** Place the mouse cursor over a conflict event point to reveal a popup box with data on that event. In the popup box, clicking on the “Event ID” hyperlink will open a new webpage that shows all data tracked on that conflict event (including actors, event type, description, and other pertinent information).
USING ADVANCED FILTERS

SCAD CONFLICTS

Select this tab to filter data in the Social Conflict in Africa Database (SCAD). SCAD includes protests, riots, strikes, inter-communal conflict, government violence against civilians, and other forms of social conflict not systematically tracked in other conflict datasets. SCAD currently includes information on over 7,900 social conflict events from 1990 to 2011.

Note that when SCAD data are displayed on the map, no data from the Armed Conflict Location and Event Dataset will be displayed simultaneously since some events are recorded in both datasets. For your SCAD filter selections to appear on the map, you must select “SCAD Conflict Events” on the Layers drop-down menu above the map.

Start Date: To search for events that began on a certain date, select a date from the drop down calendar. The earliest entry in SCAD is January 1, 1990.

End Date: To search for events that concluded by a certain date, select a date from the drop down calendar. The most current entry in SCAD is December 31, 2011.

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Country: Select the countries of interest for analysis. SCAD includes the following countries with a population over one million: Algeria, Angola, Benin, Botswana, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Cote d’Ivoire, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Egypt, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Kenya, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Niger, Nigeria, Republic of the Congo, Rwanda, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Somalia, South Africa, South Sudan, Sudan, Swaziland, Tanzania, Togo, Tunisia, Uganda, Zambia, and Zimbabwe.

Event Type: Select the type of social conflict event of interest.

- **Organized demonstration**: Distinct, continuous, and largely peaceful action directed toward members of a distinct “other” group or government authorities. In this event, clear leadership or organization(s) can be identified.

- **Spontaneous demonstration**: Distinct, continuous, and largely peaceful action directed toward members of a distinct “other” group or government authorities. In this event, clear leadership or organization cannot be identified.

- **Organized violent riot**: Distinct, continuous, and violent action directed toward members of a distinct “other” group or government authorities. The participants intend to cause physical injury and/or property damage. In this event, clear leadership or organization(s) can be identified.

- **Spontaneous violent riot**: Distinct, continuous, and violent action directed toward members of a distinct “other” group or government authorities. The participants intend to cause physical injury and/or property damage. In this event, clear leadership or organization(s) cannot be identified.

- **General strike**: Members of an organization or union engage in a total abandonment of workplaces and public facilities.

- **Limited strike**: Members of an organization or union engage in the abandonment of workplaces in limited sectors or industries.

- **Pro-government violence** (Repression): Distinct violent event waged primarily by government authorities, or by groups acting in explicit support of government authority, targeting individual, or “collective individual,” members of an alleged opposition group or movement. Note that this event is initiated by the government or pro-government actors.

- **Anti-government violence**: Distinct violent event waged primarily by a non-state group against government authorities or symbols of government authorities (e.g., transportation or other infrastructures). As distinguished from riots, the anti-government actor must have a semi-permanent or permanent militant wing or organization.

- **Extra-government violence**: Distinct violent event waged primarily by a non-state group targeting individual, or “collective individual,” members of an alleged oppositional group or movement. As distinguished from riots, at least one actor must have a semi-permanent or permanent militant wing or organization. Government authorities are not listed as actors or targets.

- **Intra-government violence**: Distinct violent event between two armed factions associated with different elements within the government. These include violence between two legally constituted armed units (e.g. clashes between police and military) or between unofficial militias associated with particular governmental leaders. This code includes events such as military coups.

Actor Name: An actor is the social, political, or identity group directly involved in the event. Names of actors are listed in alphabetical order. If interested in data on a specific actor, scroll through the list and select that actor. There are over 8,000 actor names listed in SCAD. Any number of actors can be selected at the same time.
**Issues:** A user can select multiple issues (i.e. sources of unrest). Issues in SCAD include: domestic war, violence, terrorism; economic resources/assets; economy, jobs; education; elections; environmental degradation; ethnic discrimination, ethnic issues; food, water, subsistence; foreign affairs/relations; human rights, democracy; other; pro-government; religious discrimination, religious issues; and unknown, not-specified.

**Central Gov Target:** Select “Yes” for events where the central government was the target of the event. Select “No” for events where the central government was not the target of the event.

**Regional Gov Target:** Select “Yes” if a regional, provincial, or local government was the target of the event. Select “No” if a regional, provincial, or local government was not the target of the event.

**Government Response:** Select “Lethal repression used” to view events where the government used repression or violence against participants and deaths were reported. Select “Non-lethal repression used” for events where the government used tear gas, arrests, or other repression tactics and no deaths were reported. Otherwise, select “No repression used.”

**Event Escalation:** Select “No” to view events where the nature of the event did not change during its duration. Select “Yes” to view events where the nature of the event changed during its duration.

**Fatalities:** Use the slider to filter data by the number of deaths reported. Note that the number of fatalities includes all locations associated with each event.
ACLED CONFLICTS

Select items below to filter data in the Armed Conflict Location and Event Dataset (ACLED). ACLED tracks the actions of opposition groups, governments, and militias across Africa, specifying the exact location and date of battle events, transfers of military control, headquarter establishment, civilian violence, and rioting. ACLED data are disaggregated by type of violence—including battles between armed actors, violence against civilians, and rioting—and a wide variety of actors—including government forces, rebel groups, militias, and civilians. ACLED includes data from 1997 to 2013, with real-time conflict data updated monthly.

Note that when ACLED data are displayed on the map, no data from the Social Conflict in Africa Database will be displayed simultaneously since some events are recorded in both datasets. For your ACLED filter selections to appear on the map, you must select “ACLED Conflict Events” on the Layers drop-down menu above the map.

**Start Date:** To search for events that began on a certain date, select a date from the drop down calendar. The earliest entry in ACLED is January 1, 1997.

**End Date:** To search for events that concluded by a certain date, select a date from the drop down calendar. ACLED data is updated on a monthly basis.

**Country:** Users can select from the following countries: Algeria, Angola, Benin, Botswana, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Cote d’Ivoire, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Egypt, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Kenya, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Niger, Nigeria, Republic of the Congo, Rwanda, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Somalia, South Africa, South Sudan, Sudan, Suden-South Sudan disputed, Swaziland, Tanzania, Togo, Tunisia, Uganda, Western Sahara, Zambia, and Zimbabwe.

**Event Type:** Select the type of conflict event of interest.

- **Battle - no change of territory:** A battle between two violent armed groups where control of the contested location does not change (e.g. if the government controls an area, fights with rebels, and wins; if rebels control a location and maintain control after fighting with government forces; or, if two militia groups are fighting). Battles are the most common activity and take place across a range of actors, including rebels, militias, government forces, and communal groups.

- **Battle - rebels overtake territory:** A battle where rebels win control of location (e.g. if, after fighting with another force, a rebel group acquires control; or, if two rebel groups fight and the group that did not begin with control acquires it). There are few if any cases where opposition groups other than rebels acquire territory.

- **Battle - government regains control:** A battle in which the government regains control of a location. This event type is used solely for government re-acquisition of control.

- **Headquarters or base established:** A rebel group establishes a base or headquarters. This event can be non-violent.

- **Non-violent activity by a conflict actor:** This event records activity by rebel groups/militia/governments that does not involve active fighting but is within the context of the war/dispute (e.g. recruitment drives, incursions, or rallies).

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- **Riots/protests**: Protest describes a group involved in a public meeting against a government institution. These actions are not violent on the part of the civilian protestors. Rioting is a violent, unorganized form of protest.

- **Violence against civilians**: Violence against civilians occurs when any armed/violent group attacks unarmed civilians. Rebels, governments, militias, rioters can all commit violence against civilians. This is the only event that involves civilians.

- **Non-violent transfer of territory**: This event describes situations in which rebels or governments acquire control of a location without engaging in a violent act.

**Actor Type 1**: Select from the following eight types of conflict actors: civilians; communal militia; government, military, or police; other (e.g. UN); political militia; protesters; rebel group; and rioters.

**Actor Type 2**: Selecting an Actor type 2 will limit the results to only those events involving Actor types selected in Actor type 1 and Actor type 2 fields. Select from the following conflict actors: civilians; communal militia; government, military, or police; other (e.g. UN); political militia; protesters; rebel group; and rioters.

**Actor Name**: An actor includes rebels, militias, and organized political groups who interact over issues of political authority. ACLED recognizes a range of actors including governments, rebels, militias, ethnic groups, active political organizations, and civilians. Names of actors are listed in alphabetical order. If interested in data on a specific actor, scroll through the list and select that actor. Any number of actors can be selected at the same time.

**Location (ADM1)**: Select the first order administrative division (province, state, etc).

**Location (ADM2)**: Select the second order division (district, municipality, etc).

**Fatalities**: Use the slider to filter data by the number of deaths reported. Note that the number of fatalities includes all locations associated with each event.
DOWNLOADING DATA

Data displayed on the CCAPS Conflict Dashboard are available for download. Click on the “download data” button to access the CCAPS datasets shown on the dashboard: the Social Conflict in Africa Database (SCAD) and the Armed Conflict Location and Event Dataset (ACLED).

The “download data” button also provides links to download data directly from CCAPS partners whose data are displayed on the CCAPS Conflict Dashboard.

SHARING MAPS

To share maps, click on the orange “+” button. Users may share their maps via email, facebook, twitter, and many other social media tools.

To embed the link of a map into a website, click the green button to the right of the share button. Copy and paste the code to share the map.
DATA SOURCES ON THE CCAPS CONFLICT DASHBOARD

Codebooks for data shown on the conflict dashboard are available for download by following the links below:

### Social Conflict in Africa Database (SCAD)

SCAD includes georeferenced data on protests, riots, strikes, coups, communal violence, and other types of social unrest in Africa from 1990 to 2011. SCAD includes all countries in Africa with a population of over one million. Each record includes start and end dates, type of event, actors and targets involved, number of participants, number of fatalities, use of government repression, event locations, and issues of contention.

Dataset for download (excel), searchable online database, and codebook: http://strausscenter.org/scad.html

### Armed Conflict Location and Event Dataset (ACLED)

ACLED provides near real-time conflict tracking, with georeferenced data disaggregated by type of violence - including battles between armed actors, violence against civilians, and rioting - and by a wide variety of actors - including government forces, rebel groups, militias, and civilians. The dataset includes events from 1997 to 2013, updated monthly.

Dataset for download (excel), searchable online database, and codebook: http://strausscenter.org/acled.html

The CCAPS Conflict Dashboard also includes key contextual indicators courtesy of the following organizations:

#### AfriPop

Population density (people per km²)
Data: http://www.clas.ufl.edu/users/atatem/index_files/Data.htm

#### Ethnic Power Relations

Ethnic group locations are compiled in the GeoEPR. Data citation: Julian Wucherpfennig, Nils B. Weidmann, Lars-Erik Cederman, Luc Girardin, Philippe Duhart, Gustav Brown, James Flora, Andreas Wimmer, 2010-02-12, “GeoEPR dataset.”
Data: http://dvn.iq.harvard.edu/dvn/dv/epr/faces/study/StudyPage.xhtml?studyId=45340&studyListingIndex=2_fab003b85e41e7e607172b52dc61

#### Harvest Choice

Poverty headcount ratio at/below 2005 PPP $1.25/day (percent)
Data: http://harvestchoice.org/data/poverty-headcount-ratio-below-05-ppp-125day-percent-2005

#### World Bank

GDP per capita (constant 2000 USD)
Data: http://data.worldbank.org/indicator/NY.GDP.PCAP.KD