

SICCS

Climate change and security: methodology and survey of security events 1969-2007

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1. Methodology

- 1.1. Methodological framework (starting)
- 1.2. Pitfalls to be avoided
- 1.3. Redefinition framework

2. Products

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- 2.2. Chronological matrix
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1.1. Methodological framework (starting)

Why analysing past events ? (1) to enlarge field of possible causalities of Solana typology; (2) to identify chains of causalities ; (3) to analyse past events through Solana threats typology prism ; (4) to draw up a list of past threats which “match” Solana threats typology.

Geographical framework : Seven countries West Sahel, five East Sahel.

A comparative approach: a comparison and adaptation exercise between Solana’s forms of threats and typology of observed past events

An analytical approach: a brief description of security events highlighting the links between structural trends, short-term variables and non linear events

1.2. Some pitfalls to be avoided

By answering three main questions :

- Ex-ante: why not identify security events for which the factor “climate change” in the release or the escalation of a crisis is widely accepted?
- Is it relevant to highlight some past data with Solana’s keys of reading ?
- Could we, without any risk for the survey’s outcomes, readapt Solana’s typology by reinterpreting its future forms in the 1969-2007’s context? In that case, how could we make past and future threats correspond?

1.3. Finetuning the methodological framework

- We do not limit ourselves to describing events for which the link with climate change is confirmed.
- In order to highlight the links between the different forms of threats, it seems inconvenient to create 7 sub-matrixes.
- An iterative approach: the main typology and the sub-categories need to be constantly adapted (incorporating additional analytical modules non-climate variables , structural trends and econometric results)

2.1. Descriptive notes on security events and crises

- **26** descriptive notes, **13** for Eastern Sahel and **13** for Western Sahel.
- **Including** : (1) chronological timeline; (2) scientific literature references ; (3) a narrative of chains of causalities (basis of a crisis, trigger mechanisms; aggravating factors; duration, resurgence and transformation of insecurity processes; perspectives, etc.)
- **Selection criteria**? Events which occurred in countries covered by the project and in the areas lying in the Sudanese and Sahelian climate zones (e.g. Bakassi crisis); micro-events part of larger events have not been analysed individually; events showing distinctive processes; accessibility to scientific literature; accessibility to precise chronological marks (vs. illegal migration).

2.2. Chronological matrix

- Timeline for each country integrating (1) detailed chronological information of crises (2) events that may have a security dimension but not necessarily a key vector of a crisis
- Factual information without explaining crisis processes

2.3. Extended Solana threat typology

- Enlarging Solana threats (7) with two levels of sub-categories and one component based on descriptive notes of security events
- Overlaying past observations with Solana threats. (Is it feasible to categorise past observations (1969-2007) in a “future threats” typology (Solana)?)
- Arbitrary definition of categories (based on past events analysed), problem of overlap.

Products (3)



2.4. Eastern and Western Sahel security matrix

Sub-categories		C.1.1.	C.1.1.	C.1.2.			C.1.2.			
Specific components				C.1.2'	C.1.2''	C.1.2'''	C.1.2.'	C.1.2''	C.1.2'''	C.1.2.*
WAR IN DARFOUR	2003-2007									

- It shows:
 - degree of concentration/dispersion of threats (adapted typology) of past security events. Information on complexity and intensity of events. (e.g. higher concentration in Sahel East than Sahel West)
 - Major trends in crises escalation
 - Interaction between thematic threats
 - Crisis intensity and complexity
- It does not show:
 - crisis processes / chain of causality

Products (4)

2.4. Eastern and Western Sahel security matrix (end)

- Drawback:
 - Solana threat typology not adapted to analysing processes of past events, but triggers. In reality processes involve an interaction of “factors” (threats)

Concluding remarks



- Without climate variability being a selection criteria for analysed events, **climate variability has in all cases played a role** (trigger, aggravating factor, etc.)
- **No possibility to create systematic link** between climate variability and the onset of crisis
- **Solana future threats typology is not adapted to the Sahel**