

This paper seeks to address the role of climate change as a destabilizing force. In Sub-Saharan Africa, many of the economies of the continent are dependent on agriculture. One of the most significant effects of climate change is that food production may be disrupted, creating conditions for violent unrest. Changing weather patterns can lead to reduced growing seasons, increasing the need for states to import food. This paper relies on the use of data for food imports, climate patterns, and conflict data to further describe how climate change acts as a destabilizing agent. Previous work has shown that conflict is affected by climate change, but the specific causal mechanisms need to be more fully explored. By looking at food import rates in relation to climate change, an observable predictor of conflict and destabilization of a nation-state could be established.