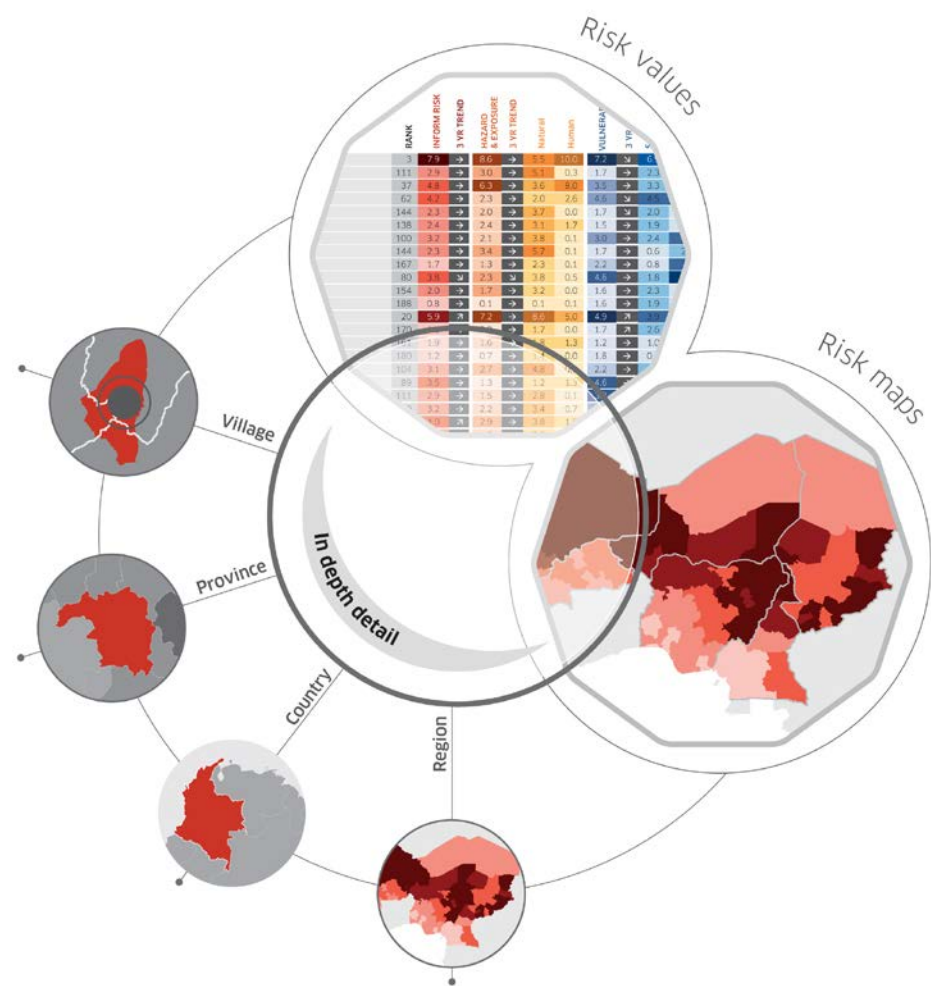


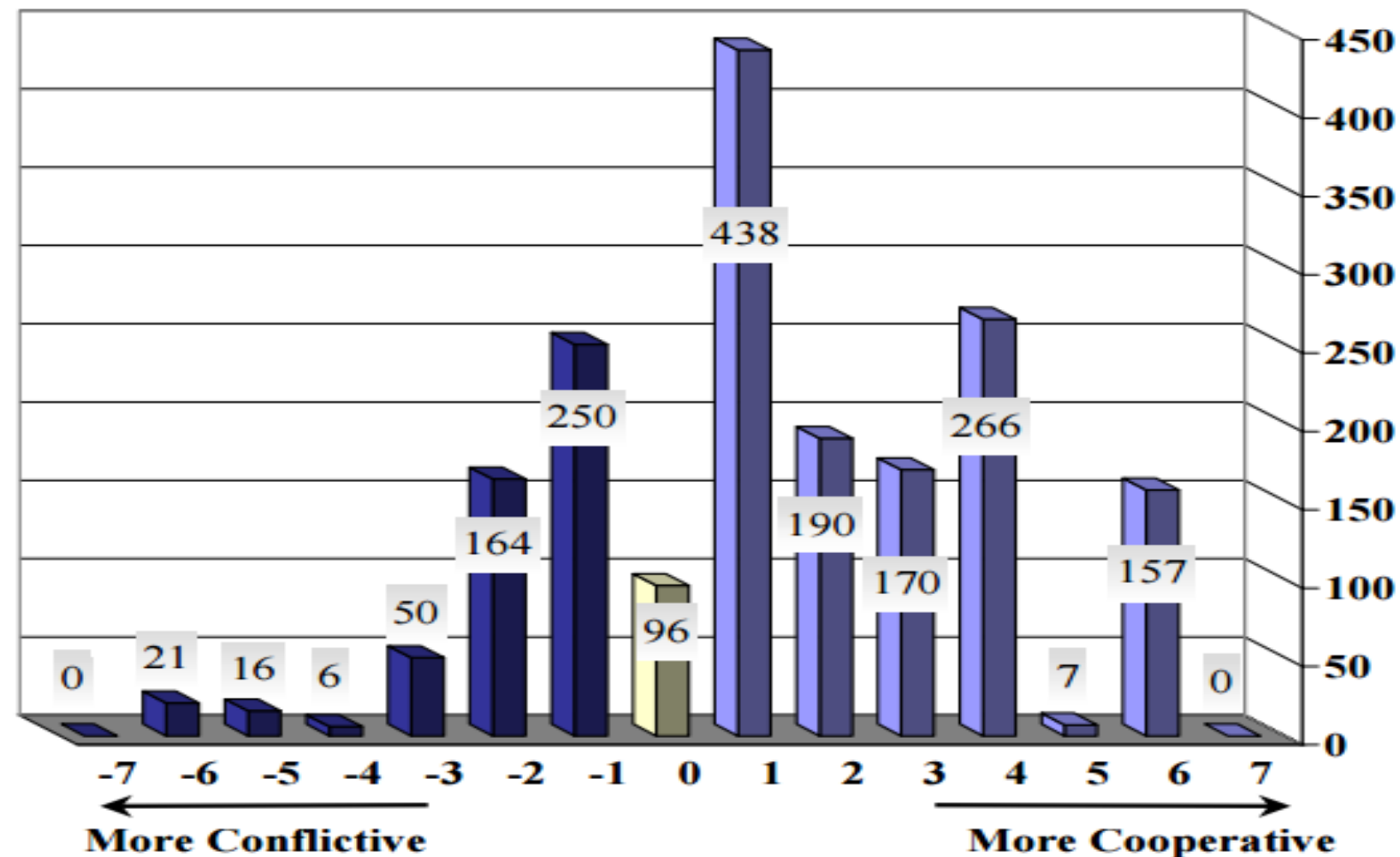
Subnational Water Conflict: a Turbid Future for Hydropolitics

Michael Tiboris
Global Water Fellow,
Council on Global Affairs



The Movement Away from Geopolitics

Figure 4.1: Total Number of Events by BAR Intensity Scale



Wolf, A. 1998. Conflict and Cooperation Along International Waterways. *Water Policy*, Vol. 1, No. 2, pp. 251–65.



Indus Waters Treaty (1960)



Red-Dead Sea Agreement (2015)

Subnational Water Conflict

- **What are we talking about?**
 - **Sub-national:** Concerning groups that are defined by shared features independent of their being political
 - **Conflict:** A broader set negative interactions between these groups – including riots, strikes, communal violence, demonstrations, and political upheaval.
- **What we want to know:**
 - Is water insecurity **explanatory** of various forms of human insecurity and risk?
 - Is water insecurity **a useful predictor** of various forms of social and violent conflict?

Kinds of Conflict

- Moore (2016)
 - Infrastructural
 - Allocative
 - Distributive
 - Qualitative

Sources of Conflict

- Institutions
- Diverse senses of scarcity
- Historical political advantage
- Climate and opportunity
- Relative economic and cultural advantages

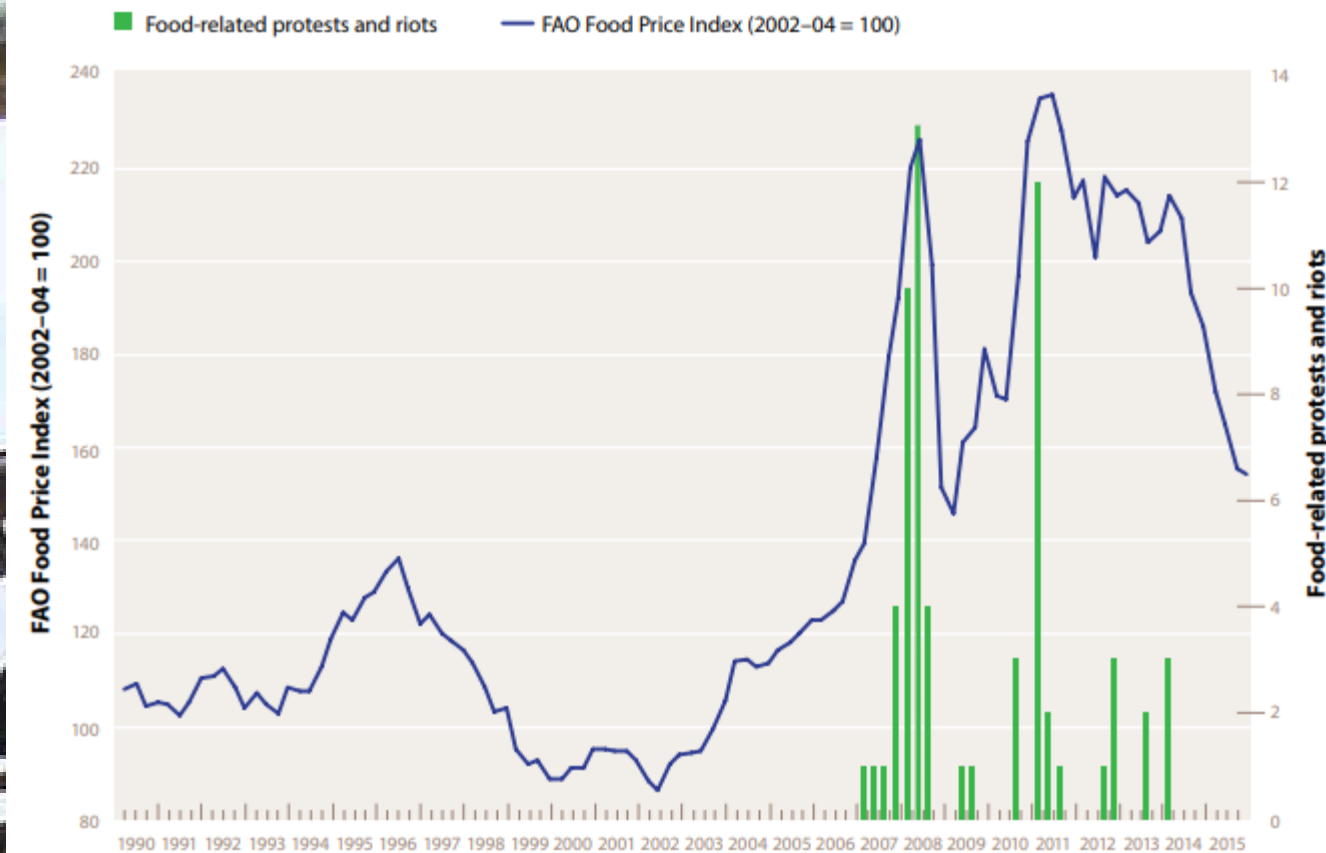


China – The Yellow River

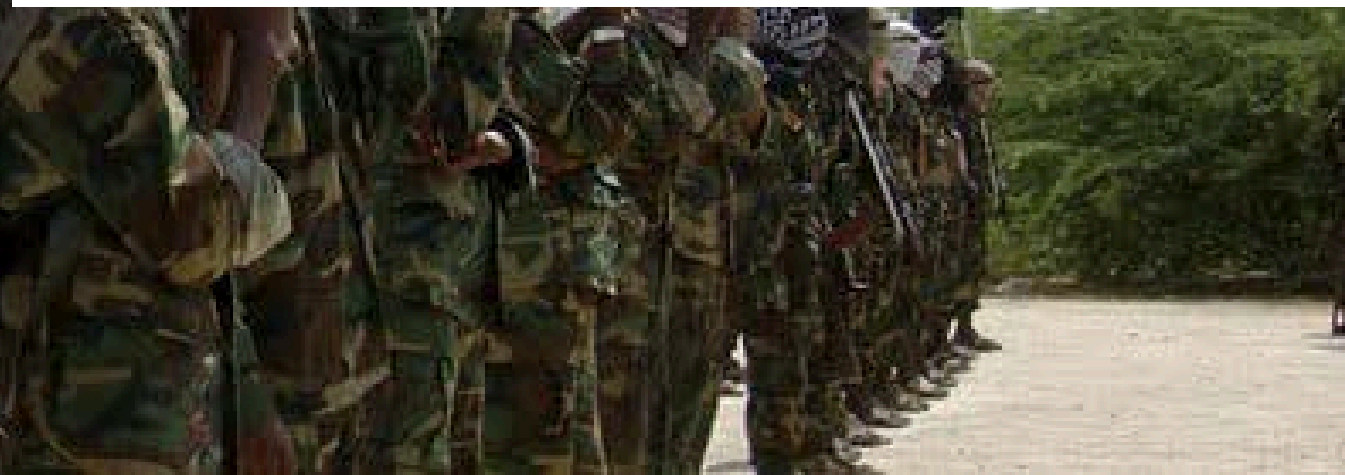


Food prices and food-related protests, 1990–2015

Extreme food price volatility correlates with the occurrence of food-related protests and riots. Food price data are from the Food and Agriculture Organization (2016). Protest and riot data are from the World Bank Food Price Crisis Observatory (2015) and only cover 2007–14.



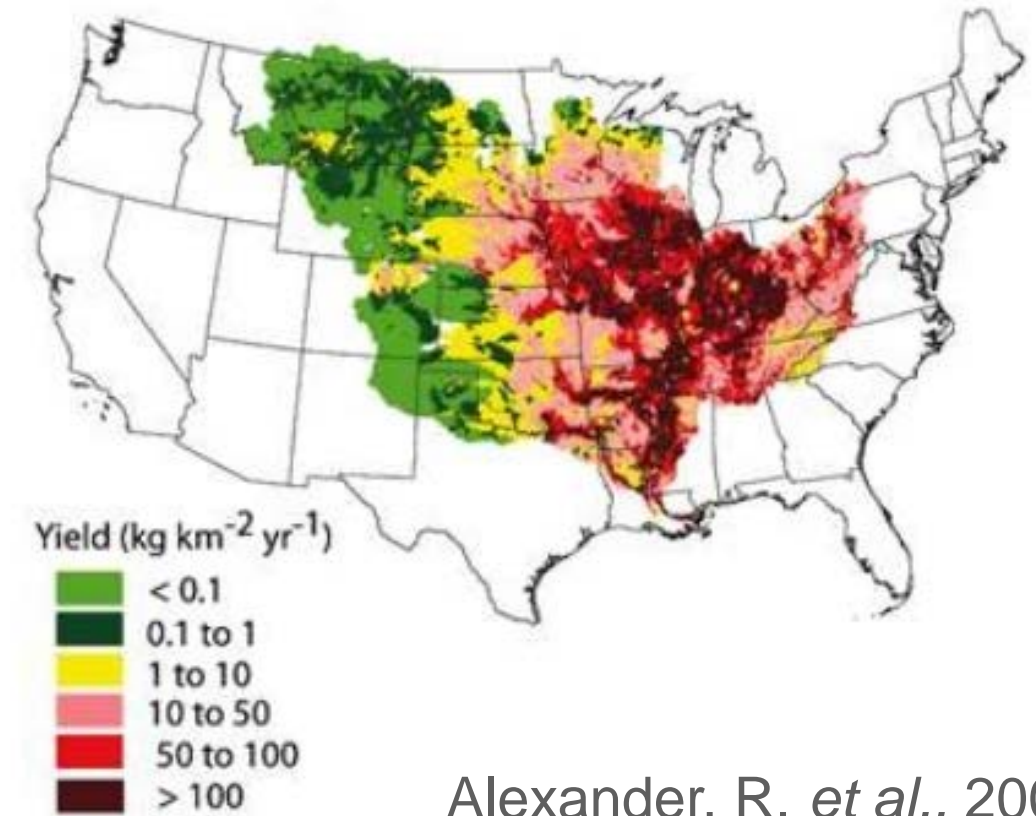
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East Africa - Militancy and Rainfall



Phosphorus delivered to the Gulf of Mexico



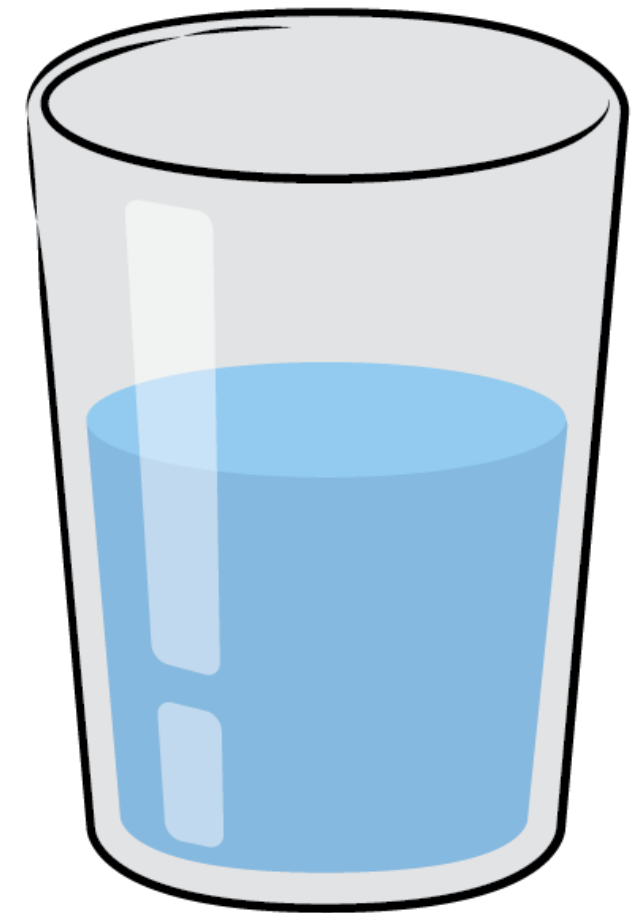
Alexander, R. *et al.*, 2008.

The Midwestern US – Nutrient Pollution

What do we need to know?

- Where would we *expect* cooperative institutions of type C to be successful? How do they fare at avoiding conflict?
- What relationship is there between agricultural subsidy policy and water conflict?
- How do (e.g.) US national security priorities line up with what we're gathering in more granular work on water insecurity?
- **Can the water conflict literature remain politically relevant if it moves away from the geopolitical model?**

The Glass



is

HALF FULL

Adapting Transboundary Governance

- **What is the prevailing belief system about transboundary governance?**
- **Is this adaptable to sub-national cases?**

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