Purchasing Power: US Overseas Defense Spending and Military Statecraft
Codebook

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1 Introduction

In this document, we describe the dataset on overseas US government procurement spending that we compiled for our article in the *Journal of Conflict Resolution.* In particular, we describe the variables contained in three versions of the data: (1) the raw contract data; (2) the contract data subsetted to US Department of Defense contracts in Africa; and (3) the data collapsed into country-year format.

1.1 Location

The government procurement data can be found on the Harvard Dataverse:
https://doi.org/10.7910/DVN/TSBHIC

The replication materials can also be found through the JCR page for the article.

1.2 Citation

Please use the following citation if you use or reference the government procurement data:

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2 Contract Level Data

We compiled the contract dataset by extracting data on global US government procurement from the Federal Procurement Data System - Next Generation (FPDS-NG).[1] Using FPDS-NG's "Ad Hoc Reports," which allowed us to narrow the temporal scope of the data, we pulled all US government contracts signed between January 1st and December 31st of each calendar year from 2000 to 2015, where the Place of Performance was outside the United States. Because the number of contracts and associated actions is so large, in some years we had to pull contracts by the month (and in some cases half a month). Next, we combined the data for each month or set of months into a full dataset for 2000-2015. We then cleaned the data by shortening the variable names, converting string variables to numeric, and standardizing the country names based on the World Bank's country naming. We also added Correlates of War country codes for easy merging with other country-level datasets. The full list of variables contained in the contract data is shown in Table 1.[2]

[1] The FPDS-NG web site is available at `https://www.fpds.gov/fpdsng_cms/index.php/en/`.

[2] For additional variable descriptions and an exhaustive list of variables in FPDS-NG, see the "GSA Federal Procurement Data System-Next Generation (FPDS-NG) Data Element Dictionary," available at `https://www.fpds.gov/downloads/Version_1.5_specs/FPDSNG_DataDictionary_V1.5.pdf`.

Variable (abbreviation)	**Description**
Contracting Agency Name (cagency)	Contracting agency responsible for executing the contract action
Contracting Department Name (cdept)	Contracting department responsible for executing the contract action
PIID	Procurement Instrument Identifier (the unique identifier for each contract, agreement, or order)
Date Signed (sign_date)	Date the contract was signed or funds were obligated
Effective Date (effect_date)	Date the contract period of performance began
Ultimate Completion Date (complete_date)	Date the contract ended
Fiscal Year (fisc_year)	Fiscal year the contract was signed
Funding Agency Name (fund_agency)	Contracting agency responsible for funding the contract
Funding Department Name (fund_dept)	Contracting department responsible for funding the contract
Type of Contract (ctype)	Contract type (pricing arrangement)
Description of Requirement (req_desc)	Description of the contract action
Domestic or Foreign Entity (entity_desc)	Indicator for whether the contractor is a domestic or foreign entity
NAICS code (NAICS_code)	North American Industry Classification System code
NAICS description (NAICS_desc)	North American Industry Classification System description
PSC (PSC_code)	Product or service code
PSC Description (PS_desc)	Description of product or service
Principal Place of Performance Country Name (PoP_Country)	Country or territory where good is produced, supplied, or where the service will be provided
Country of Product or Service Origin Code (PS_origin)	Country from which good or service is procured
Other Than Full and Open Competition (limit_comp)	Reason for a non-competitive award
Award or IDV Type (award_type)	Award type (Indefinite Delivery Vehicle orders or definitive contracts)
Vendor Country (vend_country)	Vendor country
Vendor Name (vend_name)	Vendor name
Foreign Government (foreign_gov_vend)	Indicator for whether the vendor is a foreign government
US Government Entity (USG_vend)	Indicator for whether the vendor is a US government entity
Foreign Owned and Located (foreign_vend)	Indicator for whether the vendor is a foreign-owned and foreign-located entity
International Organization (IO_vend)	Indicator for whether the vendor is an international organization
Foreign Funding (foreign_fund)	Indicator for whether the procurement is partially or fully funded by a foreign entity
Treasury Account Symbol Main Account Code (treasury_acct)	Treasury code for the procurement fund
National Interest Action (natlint_action)	Indicator for whether a procurement is related to a national interest purpose
National Interest Description (natlint_desc)	Description of national interest purpose
Action Obligation (dollars_obl)	The number of dollars obligated or de-obligated in the contract action
Total Contract Value (cvalue)	The total contract value, including all options (not uniformly reported across agencies)

Table 1: Descriptions of the variables contained in the government procurement dataset.

3 Contract Level Data (Africa)

This dataset ("Africa_contracts.csv") is a subset of the larger contract level data in which we only include contracts where the place of performance country was in Africa and the contracting department was the Department of Defense. This dataset contains all the same variables as the larger contract level data, but also includes a series of indicator variables which capture whether a given contract's description contains various words related to military access (e.g., "warehouse"), as described in the main text of the article and its supplementary materials.

4 Country-Year Level Data

We created the country-year data by subsetting the contract dataset to contracts where the Department of Defense was the Contracting Department and then collapsing the contract spending obligations by country-year. The country-year dataset contains the following variables:

- Country: The name of the country or territory that was the place of performance. Based on World Bank naming conventions.
- Year: The year in which the contracts were signed.
- Spending: The total amount of spending obligations in a given country-year.
- Non-competitive spending: The total amount of spending obligations in a given country-year among contracts that were awarded non-competitively.
- Strategic non-competitive spending: The total amount of spending obligations in a given country-year among contracts that were awarded non-competitively for strategic reasons.
- US military facility (Africa): A binary indicator for US military access in Africa. 1 indicates that we coded the country as hosting US military access in a given year, and 0 that we did not.
- US military facility (Africa), conservative coding: A binary indicator for US military access in Africa, using a more conservative coding scheme that excluded contracts in which the description contained reference to the words "school" or "hospital." 1 indicates that we coded the country as hosting US military access in a given year, and 0 that we did not.
- US military facility (Africa), liberal coding: A binary indicator for US military access in Africa, using a more liberal coding scheme that relaxed the requirement of needing keywords to identify access-related contracts. 1 indicates that we coded the country as hosting US military access in a given year, and 0 that we did not.