README file for "Symbols of State: Explaining Prestige Projects in the Global South"

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Austin Strange (astrange@hku.hk)

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This file provides information about all files included for replication purposes, including file names and brief descriptions.

The latest versions of these files were produced on a Mac operating system. Replication data and code were processed using R/R Studio (Version 2023.09.1+494 (2023.09.1+494)).

List of files:

Data files:

"ISQ_AMS_AllocationDataset.csv": Dataset for all statistical analyses of prestige project global allocation contained in the manuscript and appendices (i.e. Section 3 of the manuscript, and Appendix B).

"ISQ_AMS_PNGSurveyDataset.csv": Survey dataset for analysis of attitudes toward prestige projects in Papua New Guinea (i.e. Section 5 in the manuscript and Appendix D).

Code:

"ISQ_AMS_ReplicationCode.R": This file includes all code needed to replicate, using the above datasets, statistical results reported in figures and tables in the manuscript and appendices.

Replication instructions:

1. Download all files into a common directory. Run "ISQ_AMS_ReplicationCode.R."
2. You may need to install and load the following packages: "AER," "arsenal," "boot," "boot.pval," "brglm2," "broom," "data.table," "dplyr," "geepack," "ggplot2," "ggpubr," "gridExtra," "lmtest," "MCMpack," "psych," "sandwich," "stargazer," "tidyr," "VGAM," "xtable," and "Zelig" (Version 5.1.6.1).

List of variables:

Analysis of prestige project allocation (Manuscript Section 3 and Appendix B):

Year: Year.

CCODE: Correlates of War country code.

Host: Host country name.

P1B: Binary measure for commitment of prestige project in a given year to a given country.

P12B: Binary measure for commitment of prestige project in a given year to a given country, excluding "maintenance" projects.

P13B: Binary measure for commitment of prestige project in a given year to a given country, excluding "maintenance" and "renovation" projects.

AP1_2010usd_ln: Amount of prestige project financing committed in a given year to a given country (Logged 2010 US$).

AP12_2010usd_ln: Amount of prestige project financing committed in a given year to a given country (Logged 2010 US$), excluding "maintenance" projects.

AP13_2010usd_ln: Amount of prestige project financing committed in a given year to a given country (Logged 2010 US), excluding "maintenance" and "renovation" projects.

GIB: Binary measure for commitment of a composite project in a given year to a given country, excluding "maintenance" and "renovation" projects.

AGI_2010usd_ln: Amount of composite project financing committed in a given year to a given country (Logged 2010 US$).

ANONPODA_2010usd_ln: Amount of non-prestige ODA project financing committed in a given year to a given country (Logged 2010 US$).

ANONPOOF_2010usd_ln: Amount of non-prestige OOF project financing committed in a given year to a given country (Logged 2010 US$).

PennGDP_2010usd_ln: Gross domestic product (Logged 2010 US$ millions).

PennGDPPC_2010usd_ln: GDP per capita (Logged).

PennPop_ln: Population (Logged millions).

total_trade_2010usd_ln: Total trade, including imports and exports, between China and host country in a given year (Logged 2010 US$ millions).

ResDep.pc: Resource rents as a percentage of GDP.

ROC: Binary measure for diplomatic recognition of Taiwan in a given year by a given host country.

daoge: Binary measure for switching diplomatic recognition from Taiwan to the PRC in a given year by a given host country.

toda_2010usd_ln: Total incoming ODA commitments to a given host country in a given year (Logged 2010 US$ millions).

Democracy: Binary measure if a host country has a democratic political system in a given year.

absidealdiff: United Nations General Assembly voting similarity toward China for a host country government in a given year, measured by ideal points distance.

unsc: Binary measure of whether a country is a member of the United Nations Security Council in a given year.

dis.tot.aff_ln: Total number of people affected by natural disasters (logged).

english: Binary measure of whether English is an official language.

libdem: Index of liberal democracy for a host country in a given year.

polity2: Polity score for a host country in a given year.

v2xnp_client: Clientelism index for a host country in a given year.

*Lagged variables have a prefix (e.g. “L1” for variables lagged by one year).

Analysis of prestige project attitudes (Manuscript Section 5 and Appendix D):

X: Unique numeric ID variable for each respondent (unrelated to identity of respondent).

p: Binary measure of whether a respondent was assigned to treatment information about a prestige project.

Treatment_DO: Treatment group (nonp_1 = rice production center; nonp_2 = water desalinization plant; p_priv = foreign ministry; and p_pub = national theater).

vis: Respondent evaluation of a given development project's expected public visibility (normalized to 1).

attribute_natgov: Binary measure of whether a respondent attributed a given development project to the national government.

Mot_IntStat: Binary measure of whether a respondent identified status seeking as a motivation behind a given development project.

age: Respondent age.

gender: Respondent gender.

income2: Respondent income (9 = highest tier, 1 = lowest tier)

highered: Whether a respondent has received education above the high school level ("1" if yes, "0" otherwise).

national: Respondent reported nationalism scale (21 = highest tier, 1 = lowest tier).

aidknow: Binary measure of whether a respondent correctly answered a question about the extent of PNG's dependence on foreign assistance.

pretreat_chn2: Binary measure of whether a respondent ranked the Chinese government as the most or second-most effective development partner for promoting socioeconomic development in Papua New Guinea (Choices include China, US, Australia, New Zealand, France, and Germany).