



# Public Unrest Safety Guide

July 2023



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# Executive Summary



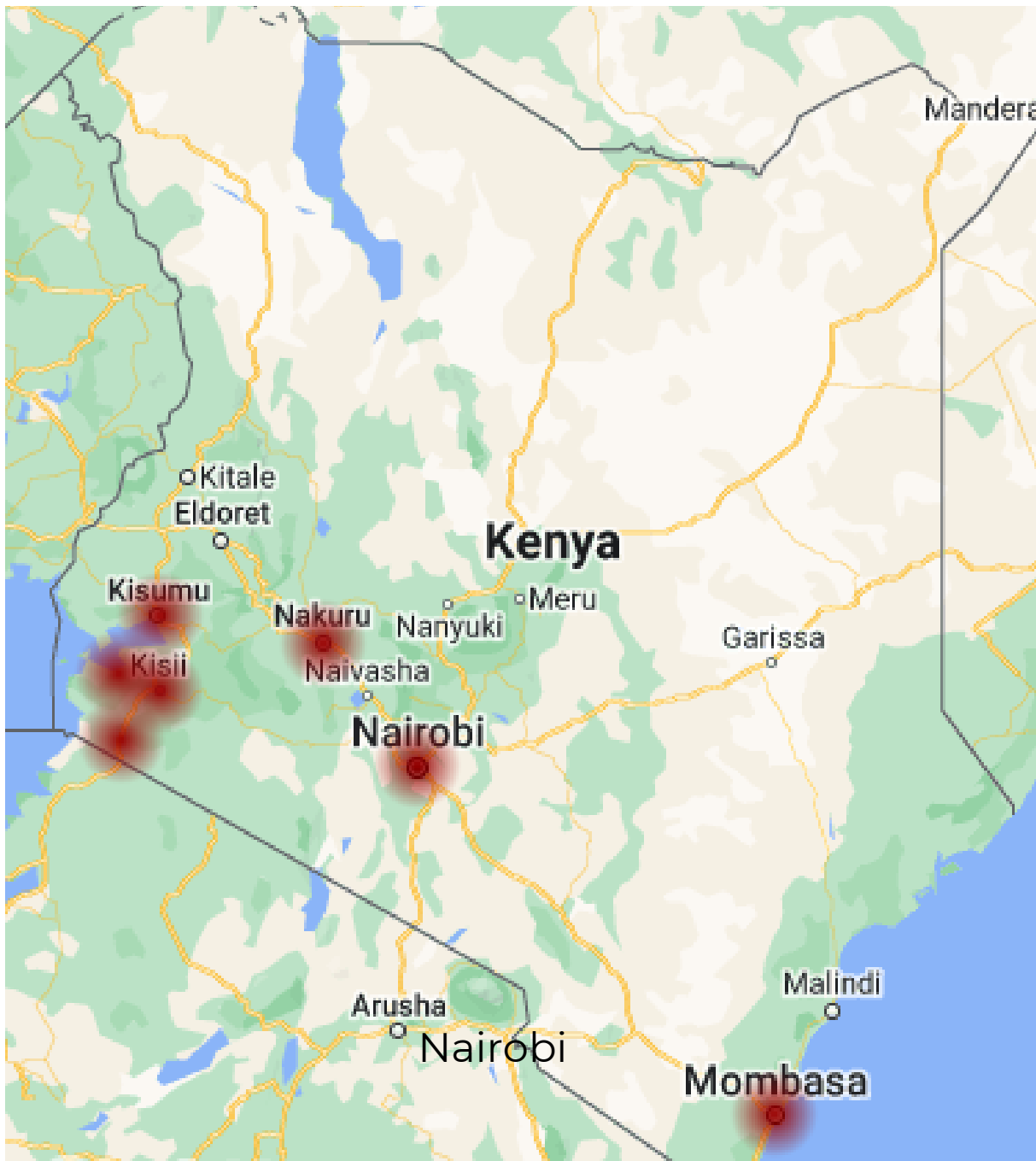
This report summarizes the key points regarding the planned Saba Saba protest rallies organized by the opposition in Kenya. The rallies are scheduled to take place on Friday, July 7, with the main event occurring at Kamukunji Grounds in Nairobi. However, the opposition leader Raila Odinga has announced that these rallies will also be held countrywide. The purpose of these protests is to express dissatisfaction with the current government, particularly concerning the high cost of living and various taxes imposed by the President William Ruto's regime. Odinga intends to formalize subsequent rallies in different locations across the country. The opposition's movement, known as Azimio, aims to boycott the government's policies and taxes through consultative meetings and peaceful demonstrations.

## Key Points:

- **Nationwide Protests:** The opposition has expanded the scope of the Saba Saba protest rallies, announcing that they will be held countrywide. The initial rally is scheduled for July 7 at Kamukunji Grounds in Nairobi, with subsequent rallies to be organized in other locations.
- **Anti-Government Sentiments:** Raila Odinga, the leader of Azimio, has called on his supporters to protest against the current government. The main focus of their grievances is the high cost of living and the increasing taxes on consumable goods and fuel, along with the recently announced fare hike.
- **Boycotting Regime and Taxes:** Odinga intends to utilize the consultative meetings during the rallies to strategize and mobilize support for boycotting President Ruto's regime, its policies, and taxes. The aim is to create public opposition to the Kenya Kwanza regime.
- **Signature Collection Exercise:** The Friday rallies will mark the beginning of a signature collection exercise. The purpose of this exercise is to gather support for rejecting the Kenya Kwanza regime and its policies.
- **Peaceful Demonstrations:** Odinga has assured the public that the protests will be peaceful and in accordance with the law. He emphasized that Kenyans will be exercising their constitutional right to protest and allayed concerns about potential violence during the rallies.
- **Likely Protest Locations:** While specific protest sites across the country have not been announced yet, it is expected that related gatherings will be located near government buildings, stadiums, prominent squares in city centers, and along major roads and streets. Notable counties likely to host demonstrations include Mombasa, Kisumu, Migori, Siaya, Kisii, Kakamega, and Vihiga.
- **Anticipated Scale of Demonstrations:** Given the opposition's widespread support and the national nature of the protests, it is anticipated that the gatherings will be large in most areas, reflecting a significant public sentiment against the government.
- **Conclusion:** The planned Saba Saba protest rallies organized by the opposition are expected to draw widespread participation across Kenya. Read our Public Safety guide for tips to enhance your safety.

## Risk Mapping of Counties

A map showing counties likely to be affected



**Nairobi, Homabay, Kisii, Kisumu,  
Nairobi, Siaya, Migori, Kiambu,  
Kakamega**

# Fact File

The "sabasaba" rallies planned are set to begin at 0600hrs and will run all the way to the evening. The information below is intended for planning purposes.



01

## Protest activity assessment

- Large crowds walking on the streets and roads while disregarding traffic rules.
- Loud chants, shouts, screams and whistles.
- Crowds carrying posters, or weapons while marching thus creating panic and tension.
- Chaos such as stone throwing, burning of tyres on roads.
- Increased Police presence in major roads and town.
- Business closures at unexpected locations and time.
- Likely interruption of traffic on Major roads/ roads leading to where protests are happening.



02

## Assessed probable outcomes

- Vandalism of property.
- Loss of property through looting.
- Traffic disruption (road closures).
- Arson.
- Injury.
- Traffic jams.
- Power outages.
- Internet / Voice call disruptions.
- Enhanced police visibility.



03

## Assessed mitigation measures

- Expect traffic interferences hence delays.
- Expect heightened security in various parts of the country.
- Stay away from large crowds which may attract violence.
- Be informed by keeping up with news updates and intelligence feeds from security providers.
- Target harden your business and homes by locking doors and windows.



04

## High risk population groups

- Motorists (on vehicles, bicycles, and motorbikes)- especially due to stone throwing and burning,
- The elderly.
- Women and children.
- Street families.
- Opened businesses.
- Schools.
- Members of public promoting political ideologies.

# Next Steps

Where do you go from here? There are indicators that Friday 7th July will be a day of protests.

## 01

### You can take preventive action by

- Plan your day early and avoid routes crossing town.
- Be informed- especially on the current trends in your locality and country by watching news.
- Situational awareness- Be vigilant, observant, and aware of one's surroundings.
- If you live near the demonstrating party, ensure that all windows and external doors are locked.
- Liaise with your security provider to ascertain the current situation.
- Businesses advised to plan for their employees.
- Carry hard cash.

## 03

### For Businesses

- Prioritize the safety of your assets i.e. Employees, stock, data etc.
- Ensure you have lockdown procedures.
- Ensure you have the SGA emergency contact number.
- Consider minimal cash handling.
- Consider under-resourcing since members of staff who cross-town may be affected.
- Defer non-core operation.
- Be wary of media involvement.

## 02

### When caught in a violent civil unrest

- Stay calm.
- Keep to the edge of the crowd where it is safest. Avoid the front line and middle (stampedes are common) at all costs.
- At the first opportunity break away and seek refuge in a nearby building and stay there until the crowd passes.
- When leaving the demonstrating group, calmly walk away from the crowd.
- Stay away from glass shop fronts or vehicles.
- Stay on your feet and move with the flow to avoid being stamped upon.
- In case of gunfire, drop to the ground, lie as flat as you can, and cover your head and neck with your hands.
- If knocked down, try to get against a wall, roll into a tight ball and cover your head with your hands until the crowd passes.
- If arrested, do not resist.

## 04

### When in a vehicle

- Avoid driving through the crowd.
- Turn down the nearest side road. reverse or turn around and drive away calmly.
- If you cannot drive away, park the car, lock it and leave it.
- Be calm and do not show any hostility.





## About Us

SGA Security is the region's leading Security Solutions provider with fixed base operations in East Africa servicing security contracts throughout the continent. With over 54 years of service, SGA is dedicated to supporting sustainable safety and security for customers and the community by providing the best security solutions founded in our people, innovation and our commitment to social responsibility.

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