

Poverty, Growth and Environment: Where is the Balance line



Dr. Bounthong BOUAHOM,
DG, NAFRI, LAOS

Presented at International Conference on Science and
Technology for Sustainable, Kyoto, 14-16/9/2011



Goods and services

Illegal logging,

Greater Mekong Sub-region

Laos: from land locked to land linked

From Economically isolated to the 'battery of ASEAN'

Vision

- The Government's vision for the development of agriculture, forestry, natural resources management and rural development is based on the holistic concept of long-term, **sustainable development**, including economic, social and ecological dimensions.

Socio-economic development

- **Agriculture** plays significant role, more than 75% labor force, its share in GDP is 44% in 2005 and projected to 35% in 2010.

Socio-economic development

- **Agriculture** plays significant role, more than 75% labor force, its share in GDP is 44% in 2005 and projected to 35% in 2010.
- **Industry** is rapidly growing with investment (FDI): hydroelectricity, mining, construction materials.

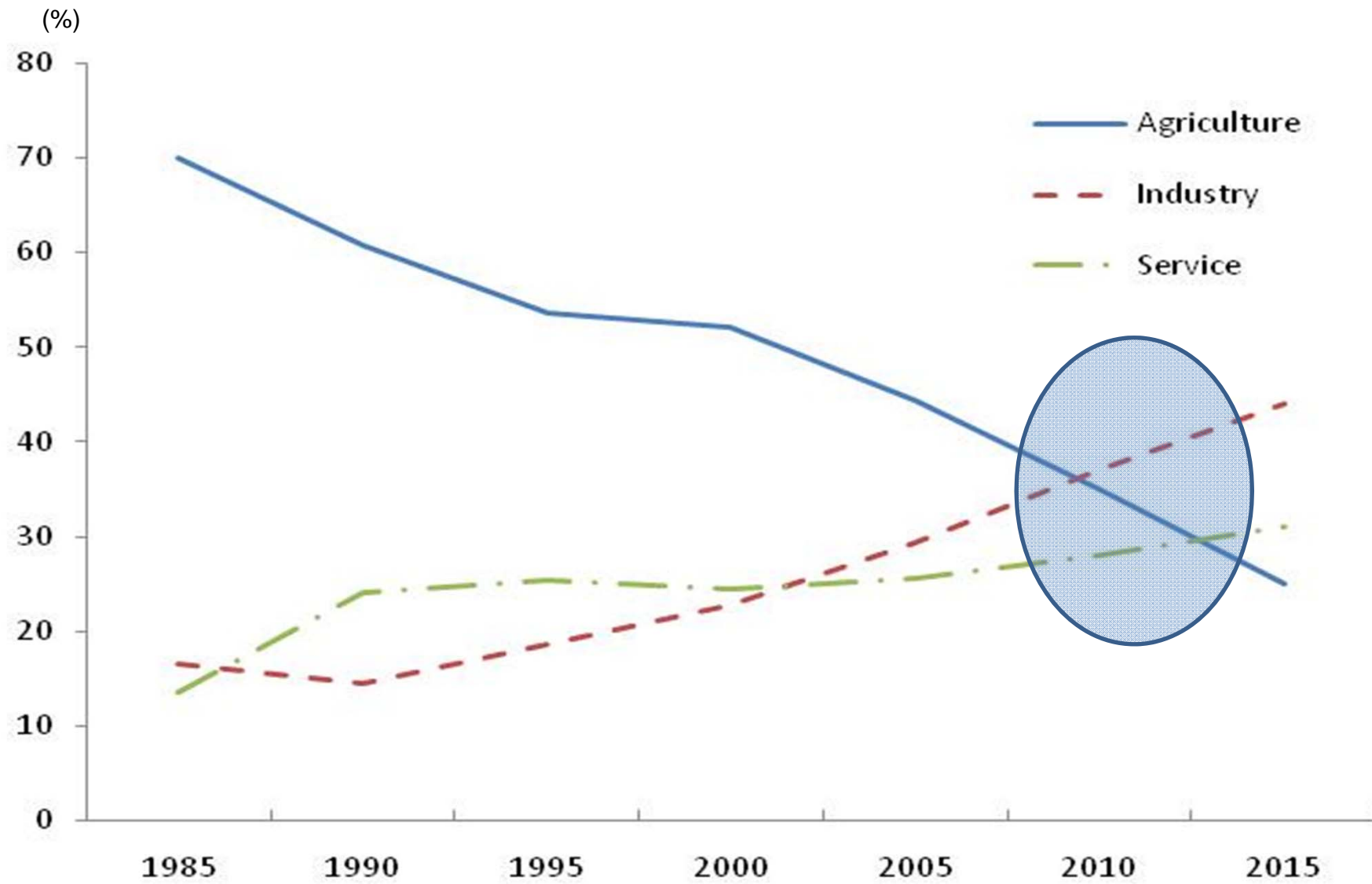
Socio-economic development

- **Agriculture** plays significant role, more than 75% labor force, its share in GDP is 44% in 2005 and projected to 35% in 2010.
- **Industry** is rapidly growing with investment (FDI): hydroelectricity, mining, construction materials.
- **Services:** (tourism, telecommunication, business services, transport...) It is projected that tourist number will be 4 to 5 million in 2020

Socio-economic development

- **Agriculture** plays significant role, more than 75% labor force, its share in GDP is 44% in 2005 and projected to 35% in 2010.
- **Industry** is rapidly growing with investment (FDI): hydroelectricity, mining, construction materials.
- **Services:** (tourism, telecommunication, business services, transport...) It is projected that tourist number will be 4 to 5 million in 2020
- GDP growth depends much on natural resources exploitation and FDI

GDP by sectors



Agriculture

- Transition to market economy:
 - Traditional vs commercial production
 - Labor constraints, Mechanization & Processing, productivity
 - SME, value chains,
- As a key player for livelihood improvement, but not all, need more support from other sectors.
- Agriculture is more than just farming; it is about business, education, health, land rights and culture (multi-functionality)