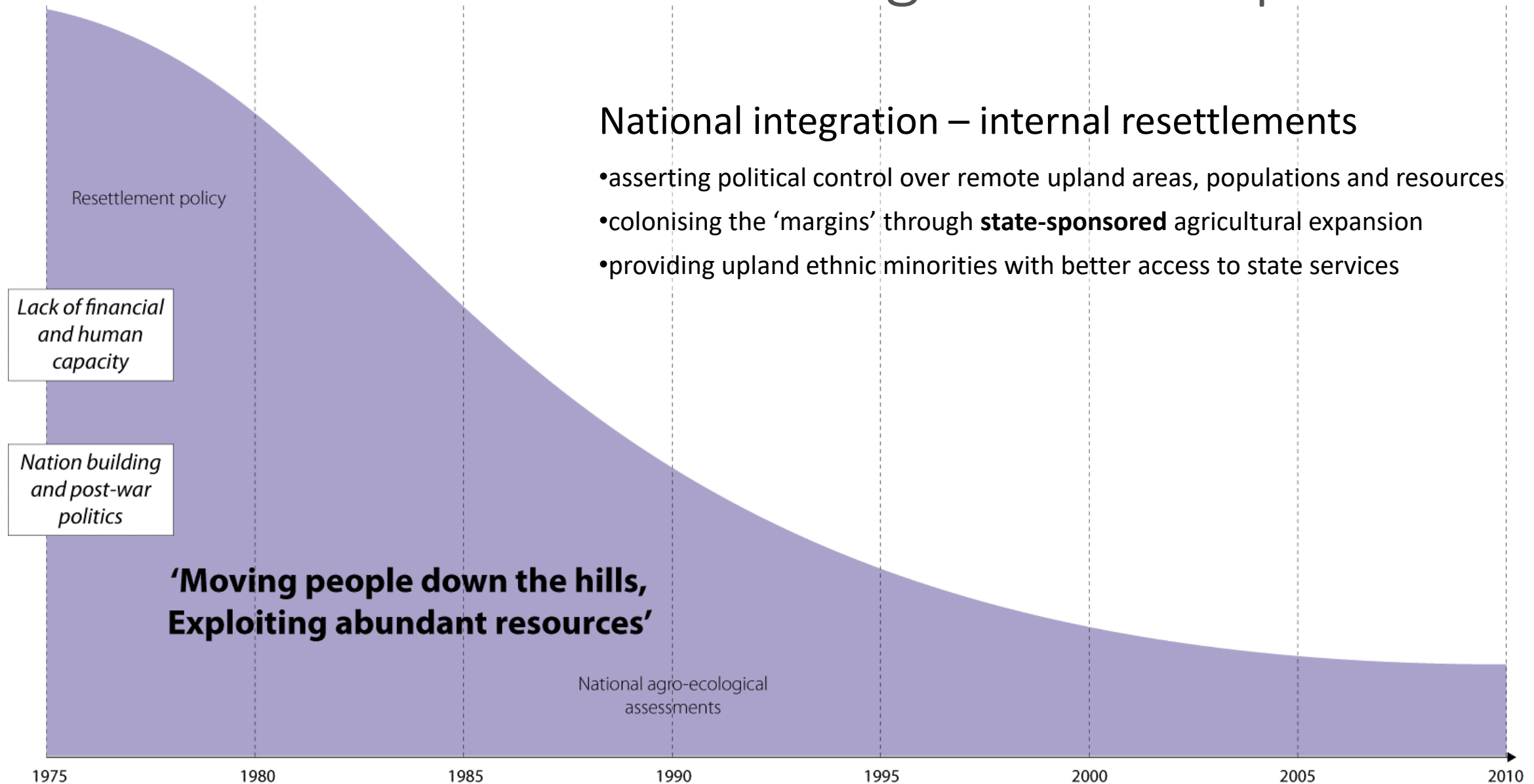
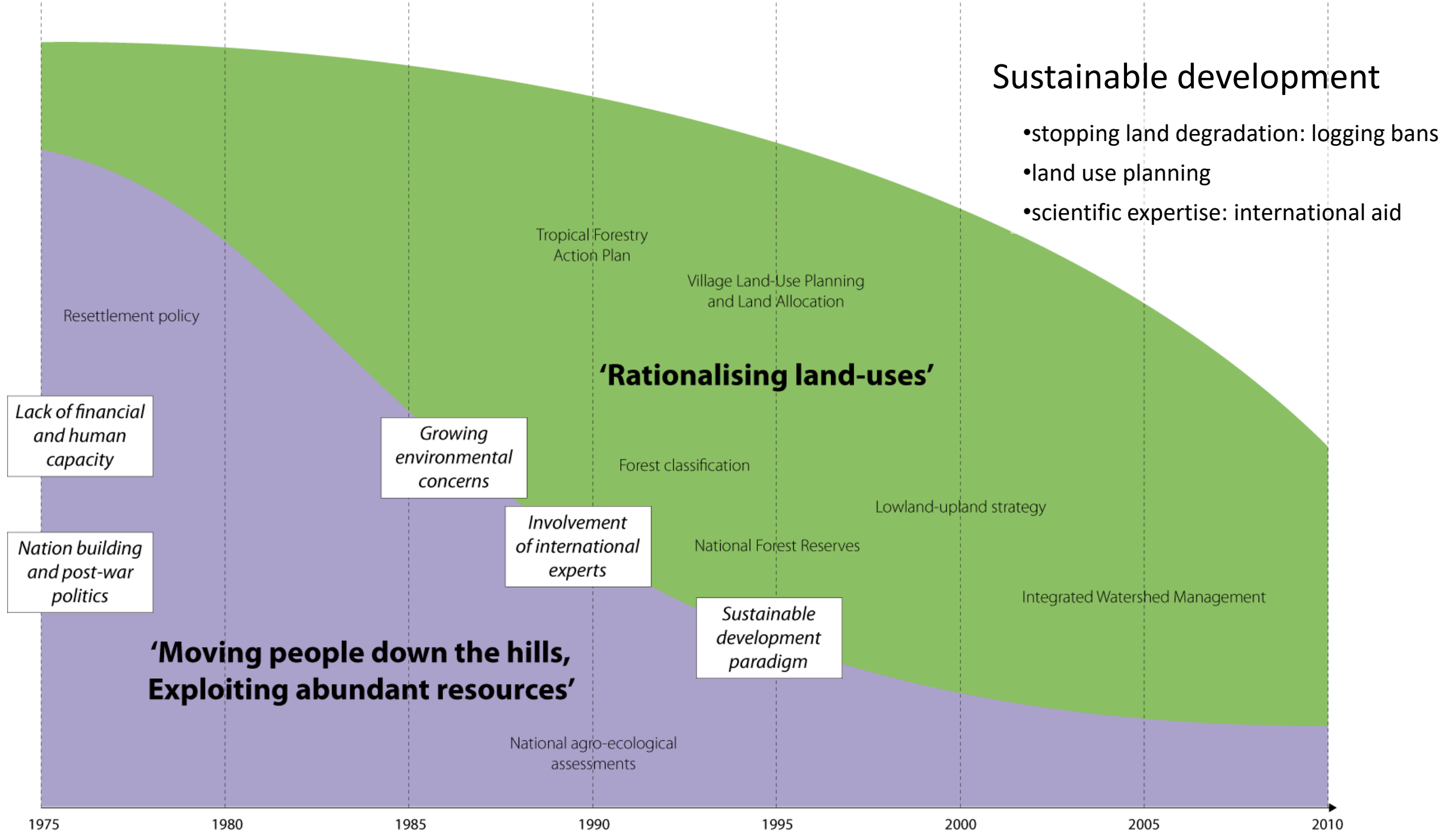


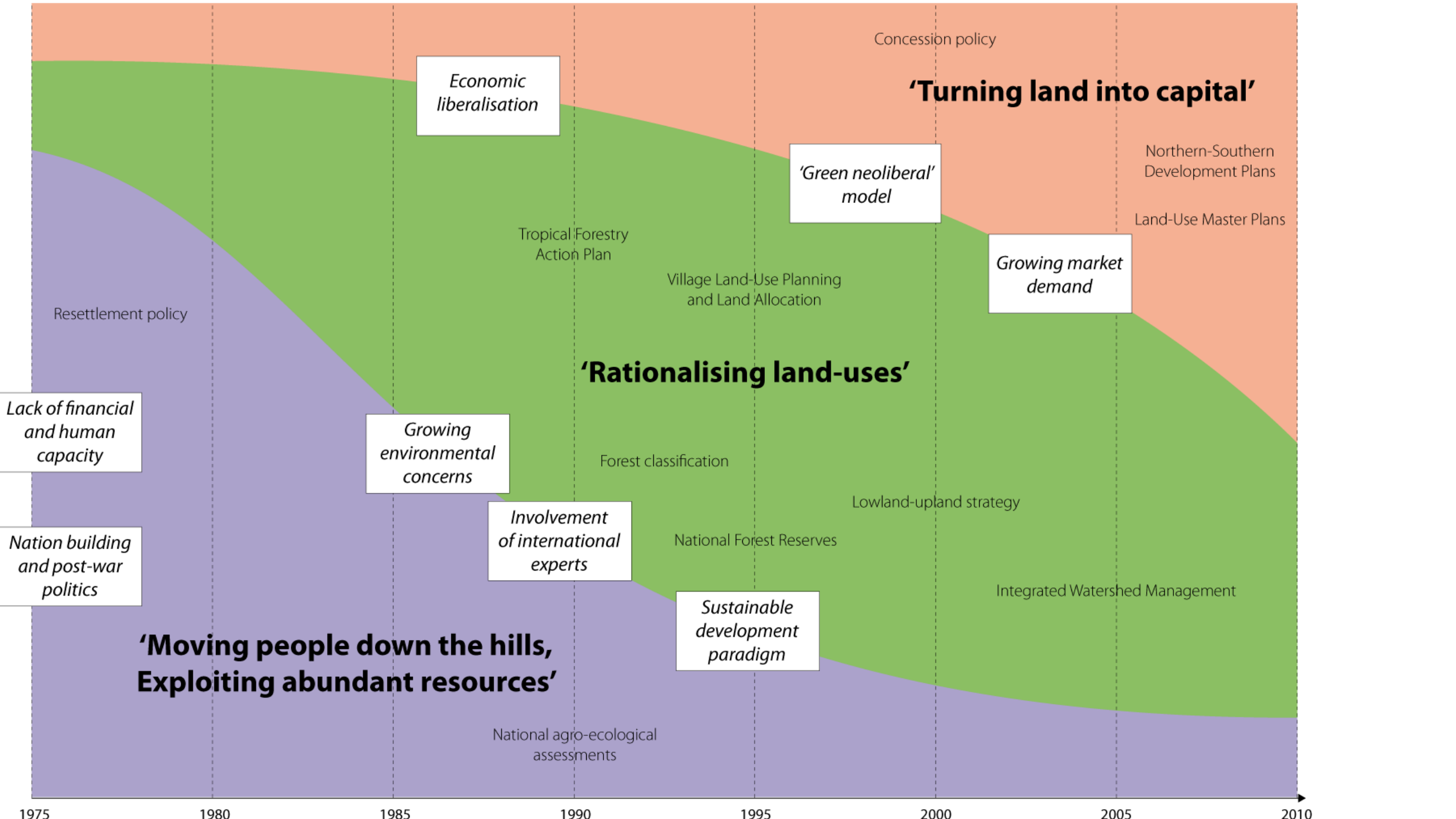
# Changes in agriculture in Lao PDR



# The drivers of changes... in the past







*Lack of financial and human capacity*

*Nation building and post-war politics*

*Economic liberalisation*

*Growing environmental concerns*

*Involvement of international experts*

*Sustainable development paradigm*

*'Green neoliberal' model*

*Growing market demand*

**'Moving people down the hills, Exploiting abundant resources'**

**'Rationalising land-uses'**

**'Turning land into capital'**

Resettlement policy

Tropical Forestry Action Plan

Village Land-Use Planning and Land Allocation

Forest classification

National Forest Reserves

Lowland-upland strategy

National agro-ecological assessments

Concession policy

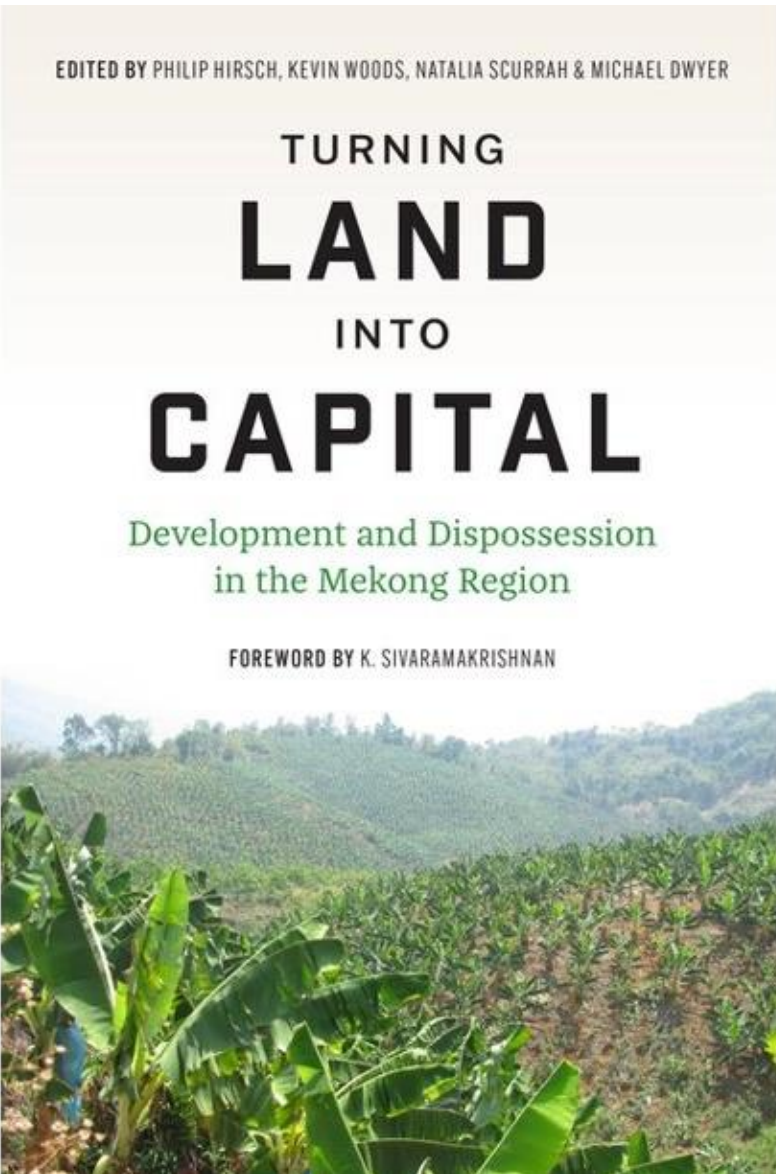
Northern-Southern Development Plans

Land-Use Master Plans

Integrated Watershed Management

1975 1980 1985 1990 1995 2000 2005 2010

Since 2005



Land concessions

Contract farming

Infrastructure development

Hydropower

Mining

National land master plan

Land titling campaigns

Green growth

Modernization of agriculture

Responsible agricultural investment



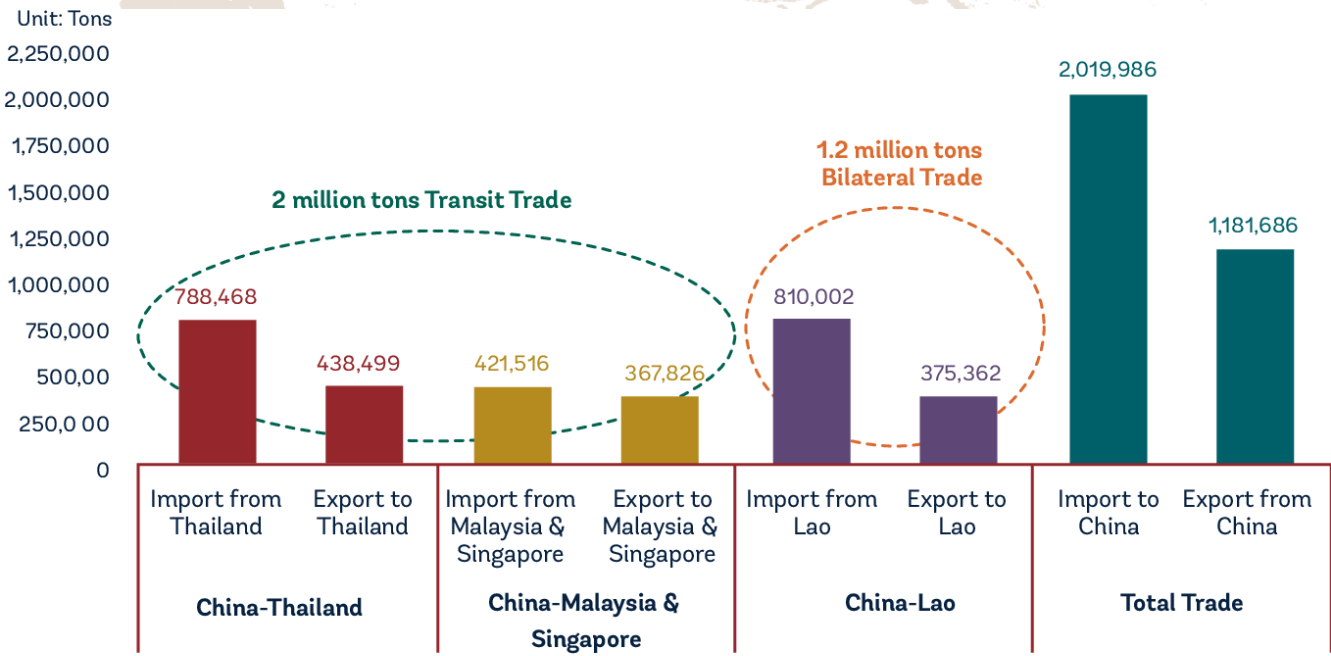
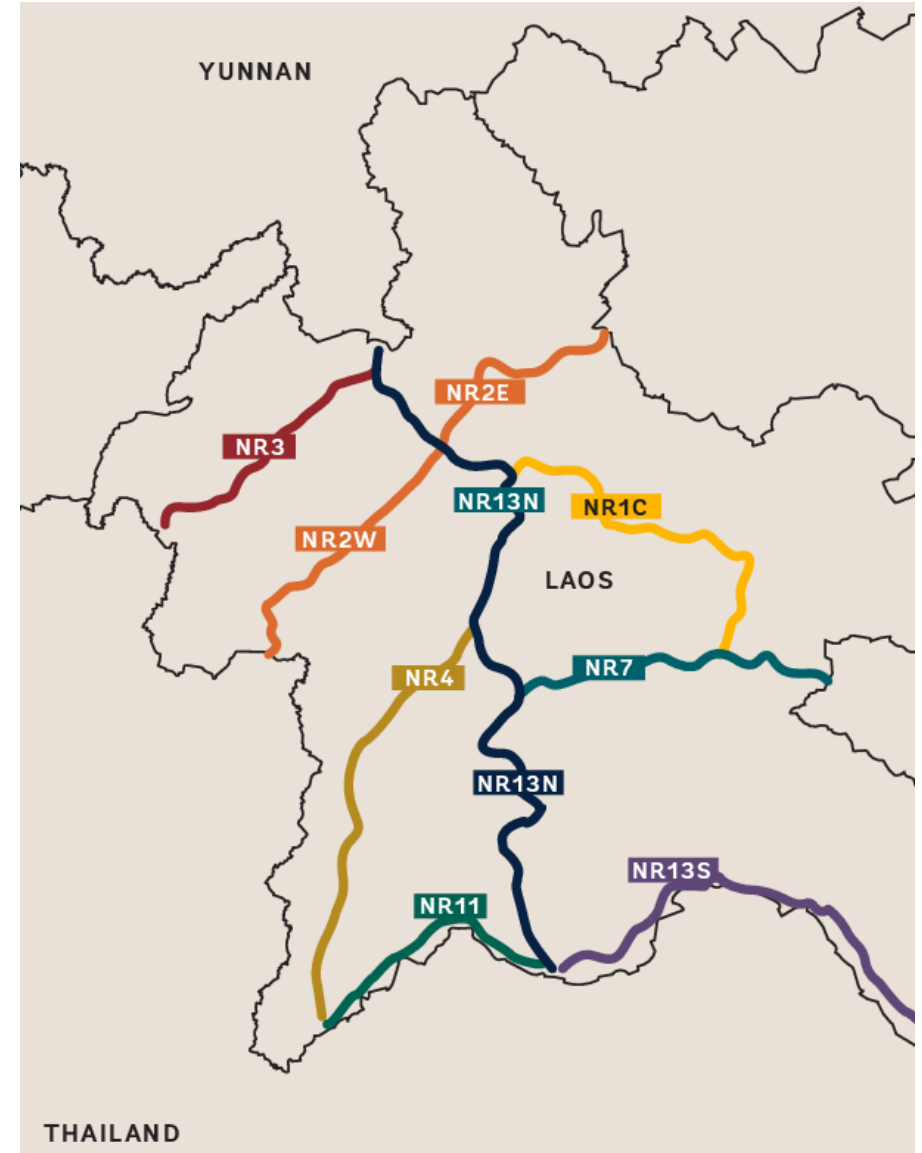
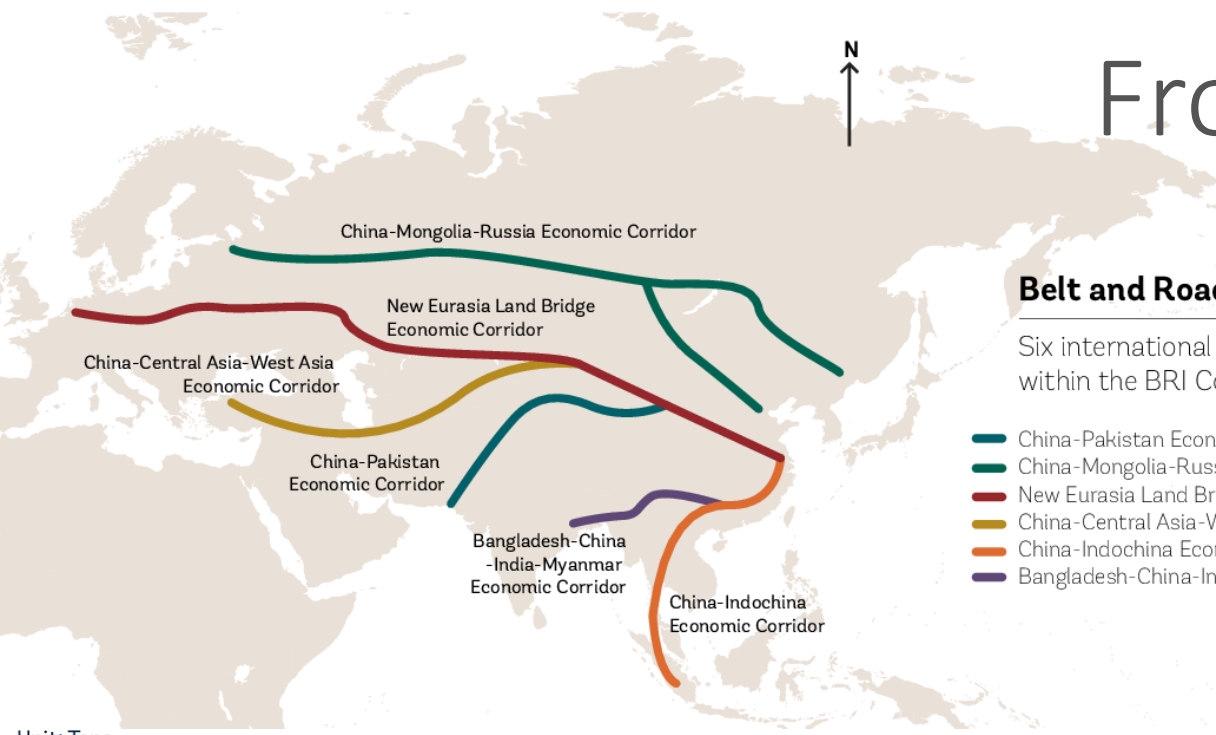


### The Lao-China Railway is part of China's Belt and Road Initiative (BRI)

- could potentially increase aggregate income in Lao PDR by up to 21 percent over the long term.
- could make the country more attractive to investors, create new jobs, and accelerate economic growth.
- costs \$6 billion, causing Laos' external debt to rise to 66% of its gross domestic product (GDP) by 2021.



# From landlocked to landlinked



Source: China Customs Data 2016.



# Alternative futures

## Development Goals:

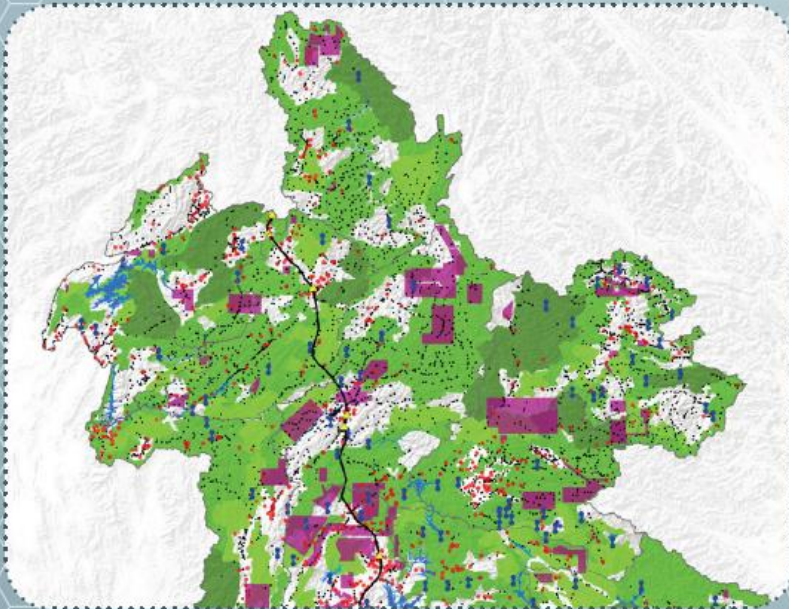
- 1/ Turning Land Into Capital- FDI investment in land
- 2/ Agricultural intensification & commercialization
- 3/ Poverty eradication
- 4/ Regional connectivity & integration
- 5/ The “Battery of Southeast Asia”

## Conservation Goals:

- 1/ Forest Strategy 2020: 70%
- 2/ SDG 15: Life on Land
- 3/ Stabilization of shifting cultivation
- 4/ Biodiversity & Protected Areas
- 5/ Sustainable agriculture, niche markets



Complex overlay of foreign direct investments & policy constrain upland livelihoods



**860** foreign direct investment projects mainly for mining hydropower & agriculture

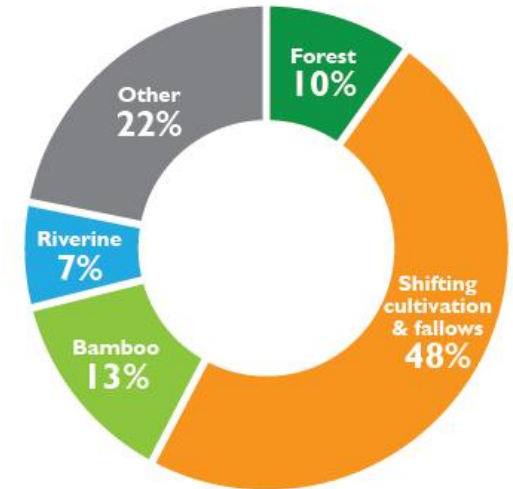


**<28%** of all villages in Lao PDR fall inside land considered Forest land – around **2,000** villages in area designated protection forest



**Large scale transportation:** railway & road networks

Shifting cultivation landscapes create a multifunctional landscape and largest proportion of livelihood and income to upland farmers who are poorest and most vulnerable.



Average Household Income from NTFFs, by Land Type

2018 Conference Lao Uplands – TABI



# Competing visions



**Industrial agriculture**

## **Sustainable/green Agriculture**

- Small holder driven
- High value niche market products
- Builds on local diversity



**Healthy, resilient landscape**

## **Industrial development**

### **Industrial Agriculture:**

Rubber, Bananas, Cassava,  
Maize

### **Large-scale infrastructure**

**development** : train,  
hydropower, mining

# Alternative futures

- Win-win situations do not exist
- Navigating amidst uncertainty
- Understanding different perspectives

**Trade-offs**

**Power relations**

**Scenarios**

**Values**

**Narratives**

ຂອບໃຈ  
Thank You