

To leave or stay: farming?

Integration of youth into smallholding agriculture. Challenges, impacts and prospects: Perspectives from Cambodia

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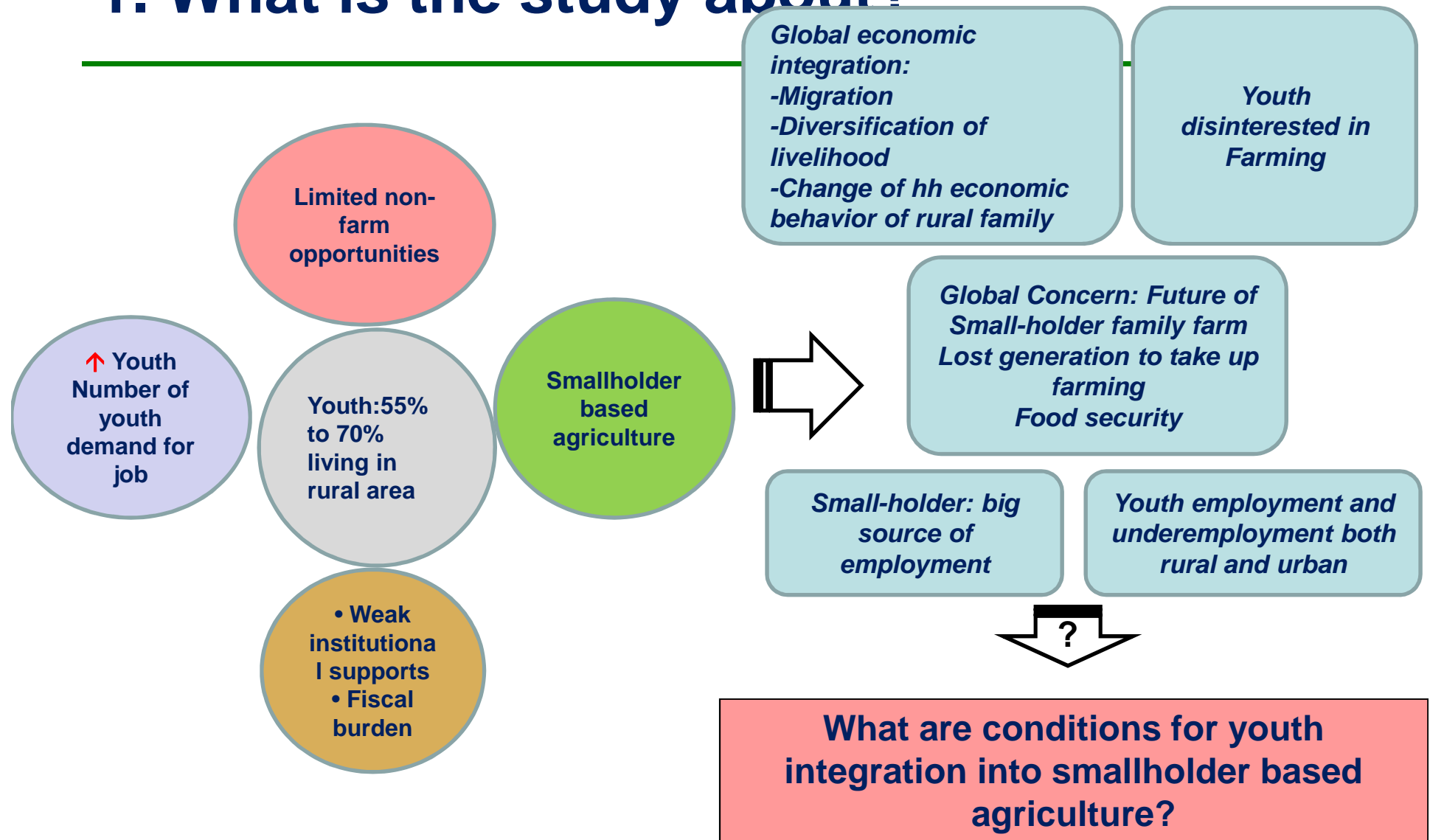
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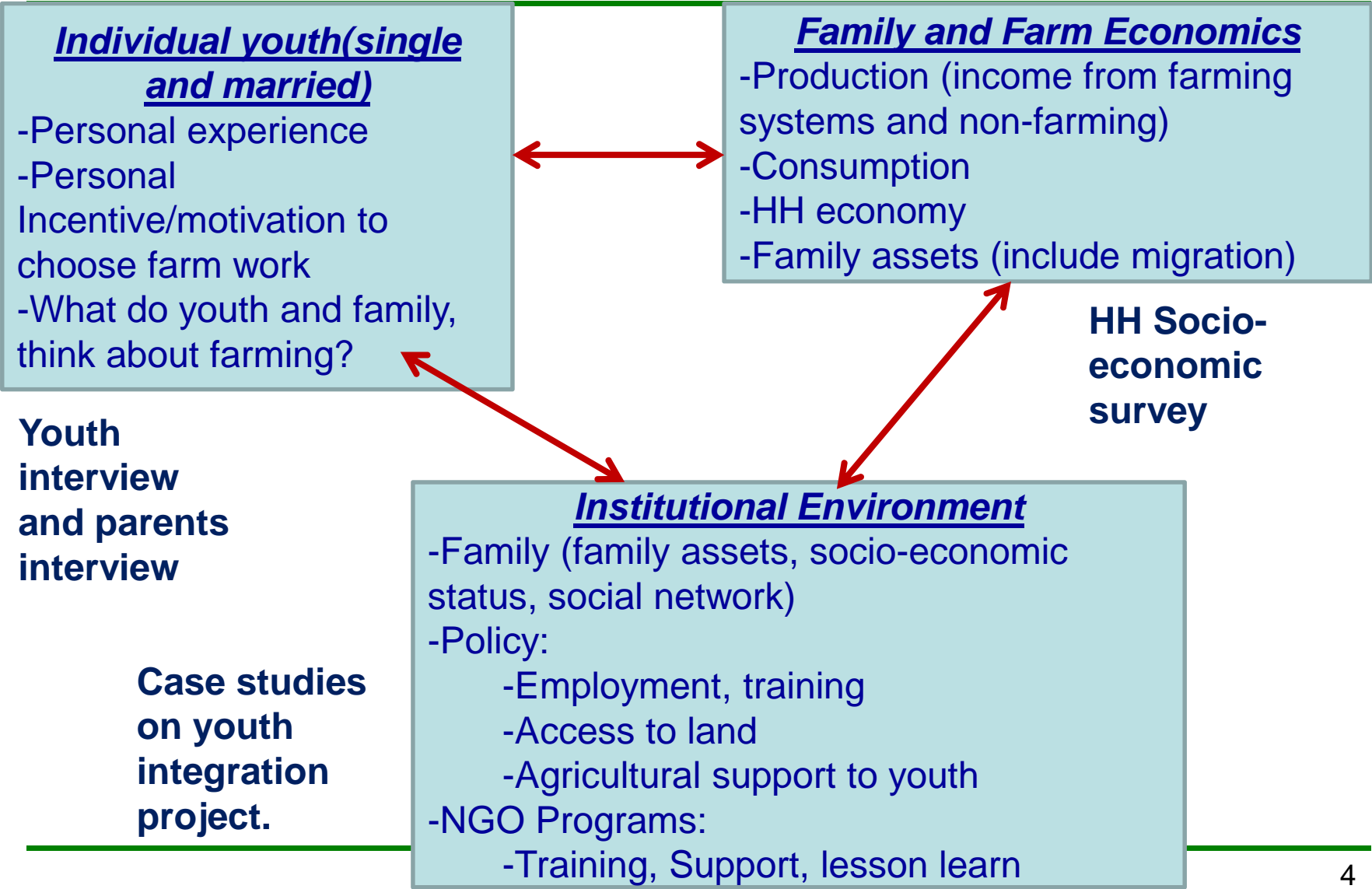
Content of presentation

- 1. What is the study about? (Research framework, research questions)**
- 2. Cambodia: national context-dev.issues**
- 3. Findings**
- 4. Conclusion and policy implication**

1. What is the study about?



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1. What is the study about?

“What are conditions for integration Cambodian youth into agriculture?”

Research Questions

Explanation

1. What lies behind youth and family ‘s decision not to take up the farming activities?

Rural youth situation from rural Cambodia:
What youth and family think about farming?
-Survey result plus
-Qualitative explanation
-Social background (age, sex, education, marital status)
-Migration to rural area to get more land

2. To what extend can small-holding farming accommodate youth if they wanted to settle in farming?

Analysis farm production and household consumption, family member, non-farm income source based on different farming systems(farm typology-cluster analysis)
-survey data

1. What is the study about?

“What are conditions for integration Cambodian youth into agriculture?”

Research Questions

Explanation

3. What factors contribute to keep youth works on farm or move away from farm?

Explain about complex social arrangement and social characteristic of youth with regard to farming, successful and unsuccessful case of youth in YAE-CEDAC project, what lesson learn from youth integration project

4. What kind of intervention to be considered for youth integration?

To reflect from the above 3 question to project on possible policy consideration on policy: Land reform, land distribution, rural infrastructure development, and on intervention program: case of CEDAC and challenges)

2.Cambodia: national context-dev.issues

- Demographic and employment issues:
 - Young population 60% of total population
 - Population is going to rise until the year 2020, reach post transition by the year 2060 (Debouvry, 2011)
 - Yield positive effect if employment issues be solved. Otherwise, long-term stagnant, widening inequality, destabilize social environment.
- Many young people enter job market
 - 300,000 young people enter the job market annually.
 - If 59% of current agricultural force, more than 177,000 young people seeking for land in order to make farming their livelihood by every year.

2.Cambodia: national context-dev.issues

- Agrarian issue:
 - 10 out of 14 millions of pop. Lives in rural area in which 8.5 are subsistent rely on annual rice crop, fish and a range of forest products.
 - A small holding agricultural countries (less than 1.5 ha/hh)
 - The main farming system -terrace farming system (70% of population): reach level of density, in question to support more people.
 - About 1.5 to 4.8 million will have to move out of farm by 2020: considerable high figure (Pillot et.al, 2000; Pillot, 2007).
- Both rural and urban migration in Cambodia are remarkable but not at the attention of research so far.

2.Cambodia: national context-dev.issues

- Economic growth 7% driven by
 - Garment factory
 - Construction
 - Tourism
 - Agriculture
- Global financial crisis: Agriculture become important
 - Rice export promotion policy
- Government policy favor large scale plantation

3.Finding 1. View on farming

- Rural youth are deeply engage in farming activities since they was young as shared household responsibility, this serve as prerequisite for their future work in farming activities if they intend to take over the farm from their parent.

	Province				Total	
	Otdar Meanchey		Takeo			
	N	Percent	N	Percent	N	Percent
Children 0-14 years old	320	29%	253	23%	573	26%
Youth 15-30 Years old	448	40%	428	40%	876	40%
Adult 31 years old +	342	31%	396	37%	738	34%
Total	1110	100%	1077	100%	2187	100%

Stop study	666	76%
Still study	210	24%

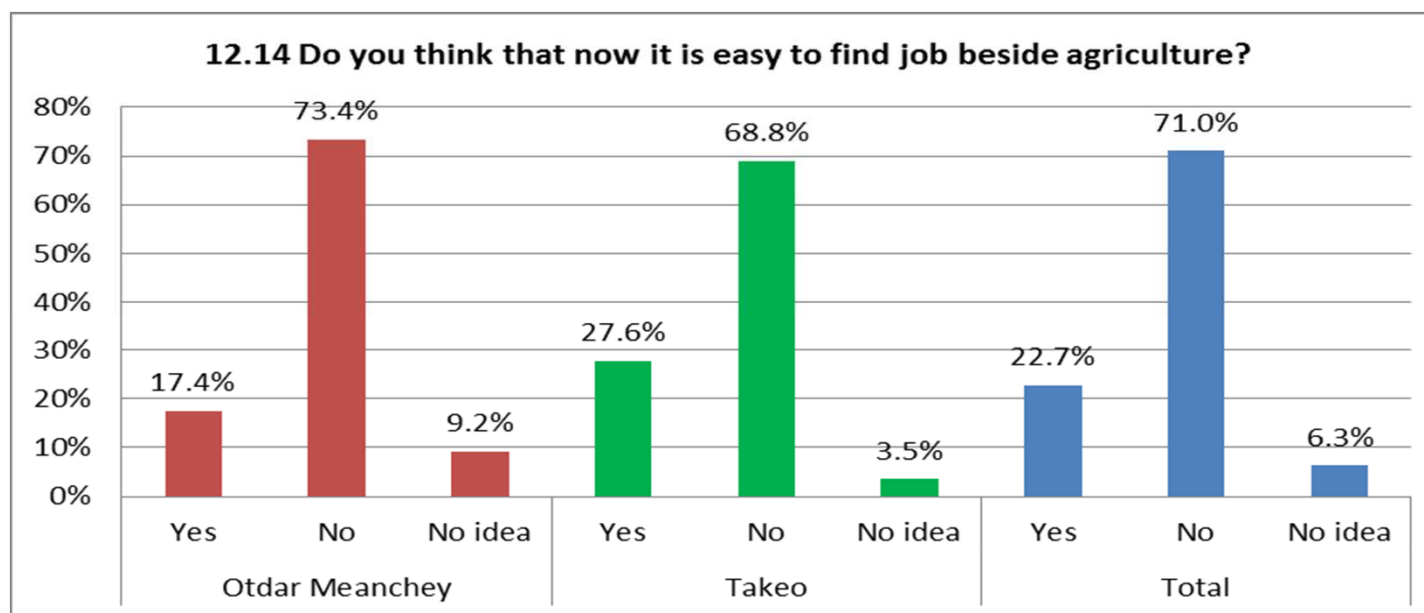
Migrating	Frequency	Percent
No	462	69%
Yes	204	31%
Total	666	100.0

3.1. View on farming

	Non-migrant youth's occupation	Frequency	Percent
	Rice farming	381	82.5
▪	Plantation (Chamcar)	3	0.6
	Forest workers	1	0.2
	Feed animal	1	0.2
	Carpenter	1	0.2
	Housewife	8	1.7
	Salaried employment	3	0.6
	Agricultural wage laborer	6	1.3
	Construction wage laborer	2	0.4
	Food processing (including small scale food processing)	1	0.2
	Shop keeper	6	1.3
	Businessman	2	0.4
	Mechanic	2	0.4
	Urban services	2	0.4
	Teacher	10	2.2
	Civil servant or LA,	3	0.6
	Nurse/Dr/midwife	1	0.2
	Students/dependent	13	2.8
	Tailor	2	0.4
	Assistance of shop keeper	6	1.3
	Handicraft/Weaving etc	3	0.6
	Hairdressor/hair cutter	2	0.4
	Other non-farm job	1	0.2
	Military	2	0.4
	Total	462	100

3.1. View on farming

- It is not easy to find high profitable non-farm activities beside garment work, construction work or other petty services as it demand for higher qualify educational background, and strong social networks.



3.1.View on farming

- Respondent provide positive view on agriculture as it is good option but claim it is not easy as it faces many challenges.

Province	Do you think that agriculture is good option?					
	No		Yes		No idea	
	N	%	N	%	No idea	%
Otdar Meanchey	12	6.5%	151	82.1%	21	11.4%
Takeo	14	7.0%	179	89.9%	6	3.0%
Total	26	6.8%	330	86.2%	27	7.0%

Is it easy to start farm work?		
Response	N	Percent
No	202	53%
Yes	161	42%
No idea	20	5%
Total	383	100%

Do you have any intention to hand over your farm work to you children?			
No		Yes	
N	%	N	%
100	27.00%	270	73.00%

3.1.View on farming

- **Low level of education determine the choice of farming as no alternatives.**

- They main drop out at below high school.
- The cost for higher education is very expensive for Cambodian peasants.
- Thus, better off family farm mobilize capital such as selling some plot of land, borrowing MFI or relative, intensify farming activities to invest in children education (uncertain return).

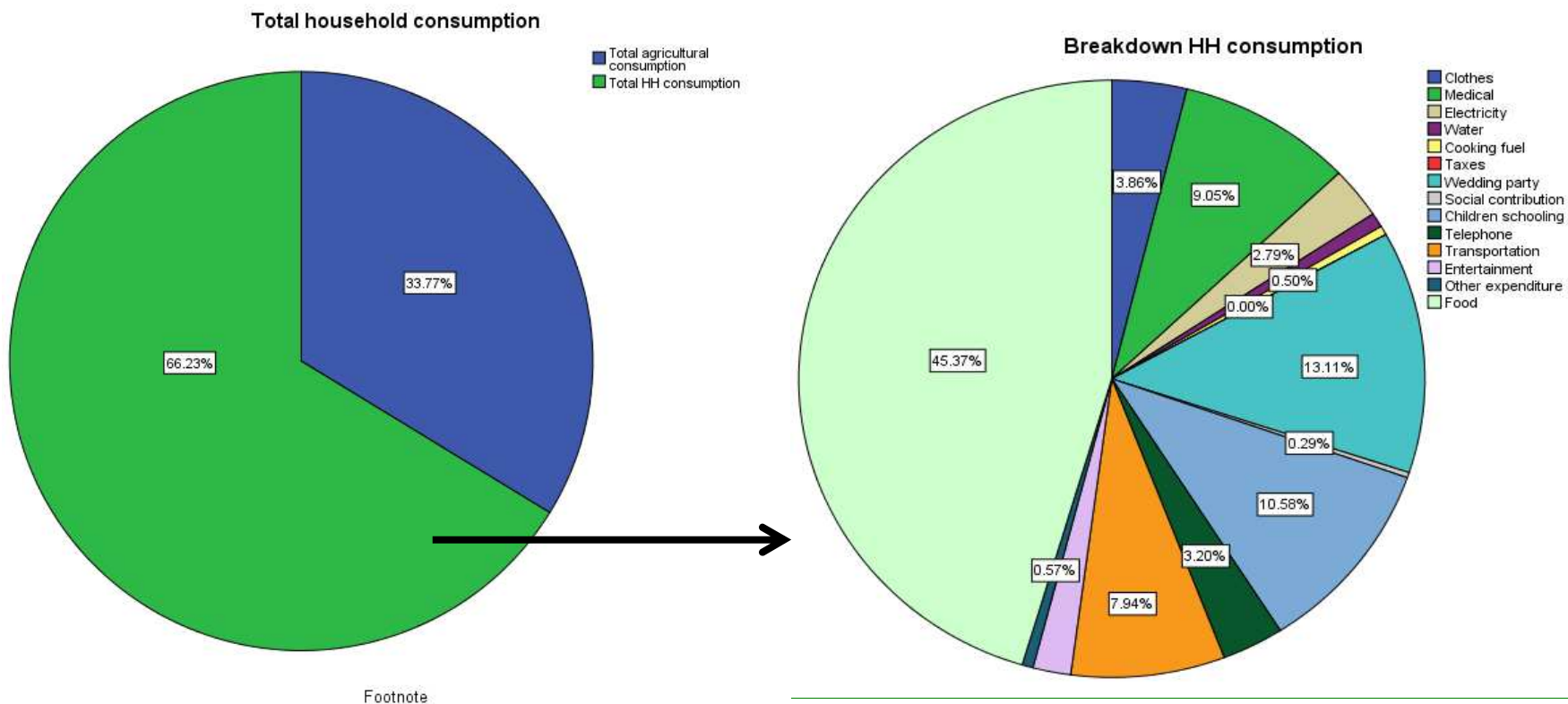
Youth education level	N	Percent
Primary school	261	39.2
Secondary school	201	30.2
High school	102	15.3
No school	53	8
Illiterate	28	4.2
Bachelor	13	2
Vocational training	7	1.1
Don't know	1	0.2
<i>Total</i>	<i>666</i>	<i>100</i>

3.2. Household economy

- ***Small-holding farming is in critical condition to sustain rural household.***
- Household Economy analysis show: about **57 % of 382** respondents income earning from farming, even include existing non-farm and off-farm, does not enough to meet daily consumption.
 - Small land
 - Low productivities
 - High farm inputs
 - Increase of food price
- 60% of total family are currently borrowing money and the way they consume is very economic.

3.2. Household economy

- Food and social ceremonies remain the burden for rural families



3.3. The case of Young Agricultural Entrepreneur

- ***Centre d'Etude et de Développement Agricole Cambodgien (CEDAC)***

Youth Development Program	Number	Year
Young Graduate	212	1998-2006
Young Community Leader	207	2006-2008
Young Agricultural Entrepreneur	267	2008-2013

- ***YAE: target youth (either single or married) 16-30 years old, drop out between grade 9-12.***
- ***Introduce concept business in farming: Chicken, pig, fish, vegetable, mushroom, SRI***
- ***Two years training:***
 - *theory and practice (business plan)*
 - *Agricultural technique*
 - *Personal development, value chain*

3.3.The case of Young Agricultural Entrepreneur

- *Very few YAE youth success in running their farm business, even with 2 years support program.*

Province	Batch	YAE	Female	Success	Year	Project status
Prey Veng	Batch 1	21	?	2	2008-2010	Finished
	Batch 2	13	1	?	2009-2011	Finished
	Batch 3	34	17	On going	2012-2013	On going
Svay Rieng	Batch 1	20	?	1	2008-2010	
	Batch 2	25	?	2	2009-2011	
Takeo	Batch 1	n.a	n.a	n.a		
	Batch 2	n.a	n.a	n.a		
	Batch 3	20	?	3		Finished
Kampong Chhnang	Batch 1	16	5	2	2008-2010	Finished
	Batch 2	20	11	3	2009-2011	Finished
	Batch 3	30	13	5	2011-2013	Finished

3.3.The case of Young Agricultural Entrepreneur

- With the improvement of techniques and intensification, still demand daily consumption his higher than what farming can supply.
- Story of Mr. Sou Sathya, 33 year old, most successful farmer in pig, chicken, and SRI. He is also a village veterinary. This year his wife move to the capital to work for garment industry.
- He can earn chicken:705\$, pig:2707\$ and VT service: 125\$ make total:3537\$, but consumption needed is 3679\$.

4. Conclusion

- Although challenge youth and parents tend to give positive view on farming work.
 - absence other alternatives/options(non-farm)
 - Low level of education, high cost of education, growing number of youth.
 - Farming is safety net for food and secure for livelihood after getting married.
- The question of farming in sustaining livelihood is the key challenge for successful youth integration in farming.

4. Reflection of Cambodia's policy

- Cambodia favor large scale plantation while situation should be smallfarm:
 - Cambodian agrarian study suggest smallholding farm absorb more labor force than large farm
 - 1/5 of country 's land are economic land concession, resulting land conflict, force eviction.
- Cambodia favor (absolute) free market than regulating and coordinating free market.
- Non-farm job creation is at very slow growth due to historical fact.
- No, youth employment policy: developing.

Question and Comments

Thank you!

