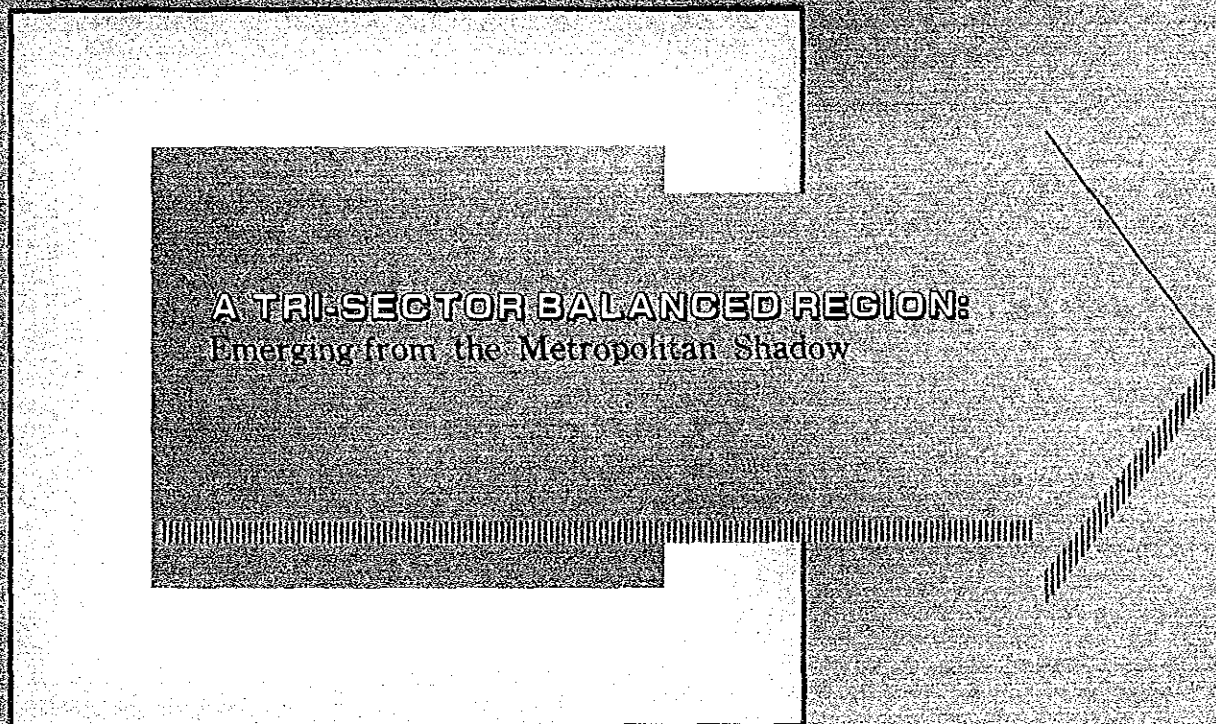


THE ROYAL THAI GOVERNMENT
NATIONAL ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT BOARD

UPPER CENTRAL REGION STUDY

SECTOR REPORT Vol. 8:
SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT IN RURAL ECONOMIES



A TRI-SECTOR BALANCED REGION:
Emerging from the Metropolitan Shadow

FINAL REPORT NOVEMBER 1990

JAPAN INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION AGENCY

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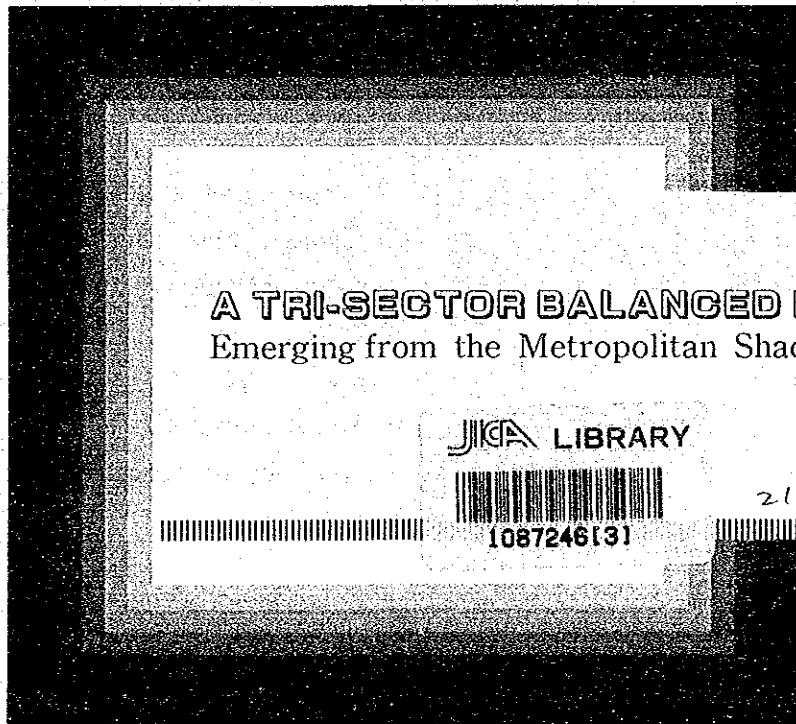
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THE ROYAL THAI GOVERNMENT
NATIONAL ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT BOARD

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SECTOR REPORT Vol. 8:
SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT IN RURAL ECONOMIES



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JAPAN INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION AGENCY

国際協力事業団

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PREFACE

In response to a request from the Government of the Kingdom of Thailand, the Japanese Government decided to conduct the Upper Central Region Study and entrusted the study to the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA).

JICA sent to Thailand a study team headed by Mr. Jinichiro Yabuta, and composed of members from International Development Center of Japan and Pacific Consultants International Inc., from December 1988 to July 1990.

The team held discussions with concerned officials of the Government of the Kingdom of Thailand, and conducted field surveys. After the team returned to Japan, further studies were made and the present report was prepared.

I hope that this report will contribute to the promotion of development in the said region and to the enhancement of friendly relations between our two countries.

I wish to express my sincere appreciation to the officials concerned of the Government of the Kingdom of Thailand for their close cooperation extended to the team.

November 1990



Kensuke Yanagiya

President

Japan International Cooperation Agency

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The impetus for this study was the intention of the Royal Thai Government to revitalize the Upper Central Region (UCR), which had been stagnant under the shadow of the growing Bangkok Metropolitan Region (BMR). The rationale was the need to adjust the agricultural-based economic and spatial structure of the UCR to the rapidly industrializing national economy, and thus to create the tri-sector balanced economy (agriculture, industry and services) in this region.

The main task of this study was to examine whether, and in what way, the UCR could respond to the national intent. The results of the study thus far are summarized in this report and suggest that the UCR will play an important role in the following aspects:

- Retaining the strategic agricultural and forestry space for food self-sufficiency and disaster control

- Decentralizing the BMR systematically for the economies of scale to be maintained

- Developing the agricultural-industrial linkages for high value resource utilization and diversified rural nonfarm employment opportunities

Under the proposed strategies above, the Study Team recommends the incorporation of four priority project packages, which include an Integrated Pasak River Basin Development, Agro-Industrial Linkage Development, the Greater Sara Buri Industrial Core (GSIC) Development, and Human Resource Development.

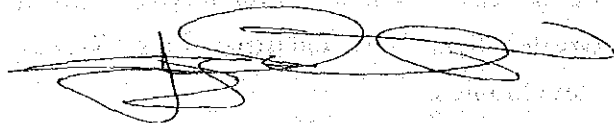
In order to be useful, these strategies need to be supported by continuous improvement in development administration. This effort for the UCR could accelerate an overall reform of regional development administration in Thailand, because the UCR is an early region which will address itself to the growing national need of balancing industry against

agriculture, development against environmental considerations, and urban development against rural development. Bearing this in mind, the Study Team recommends improvements in conventional development administration, with a focus on water resource management, environmental management, and urban management.

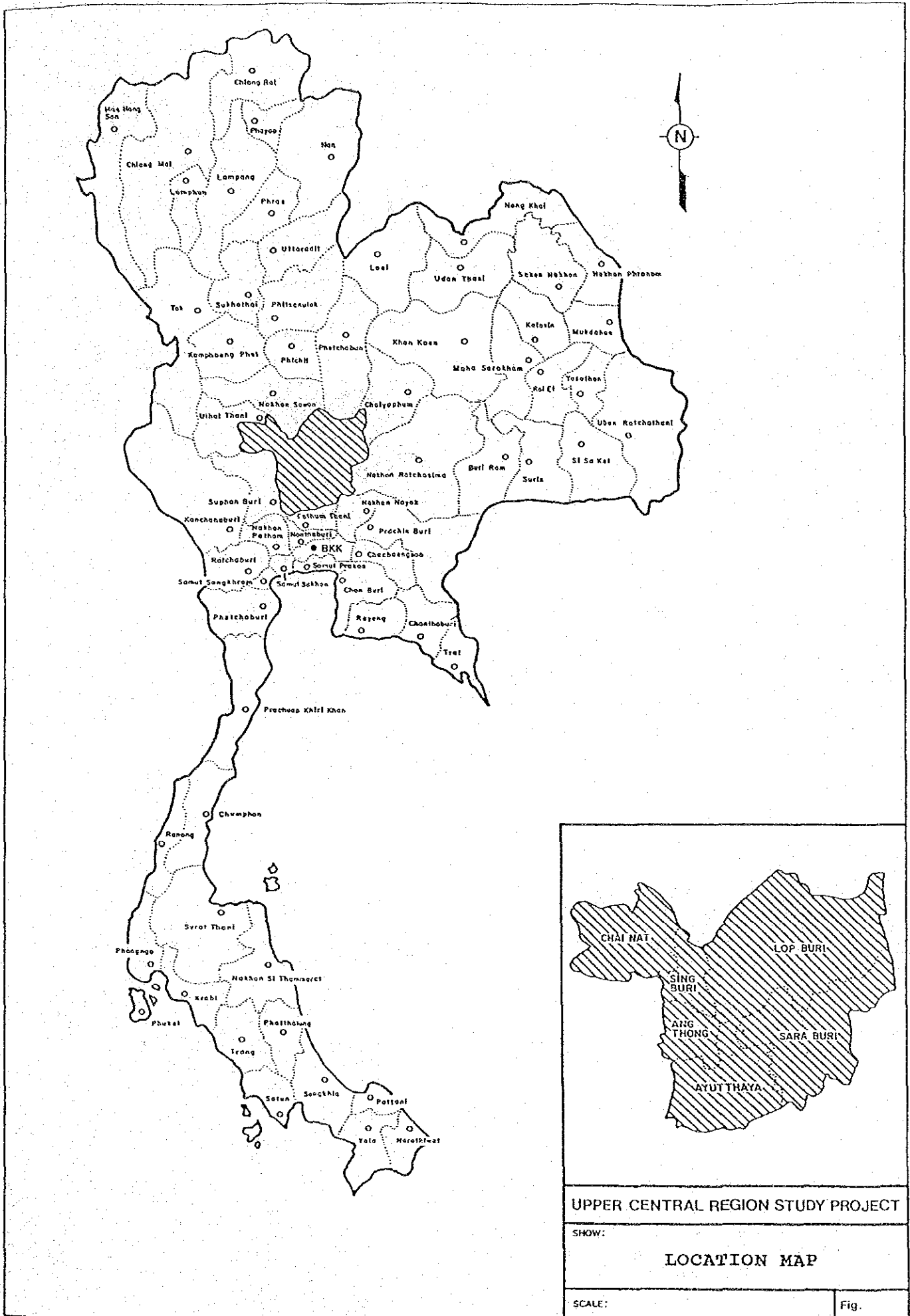
The Study Team acknowledges that its study has been guided by many past studies, such as the Bangkok Metropolitan Region Study by the National Economic and Social Development Board (NESDB), the Upper Central Region Planning Study by the Department of Town and Country Planning, the Road Development Study in the Central Region by the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), and the Rural Industries and Employment in Thailand Study by The Thailand Development Research Institute. In preparing this report, the team was supported by the staff of the NESDB, other central ministries, and local authorities in the UCR throughout its stay in Thailand for nearly fourteen months. Equally important, the team benefited a great deal from cooperation extended by the officers in charge and the advisory committee members of the JICA and other concerned agencies of the Government of Japan. The team also wishes to recognize with gratitude the contributions of the participants in the National Seminar on the Upper Central Region Development: Policies and Programs, held on 28 and 29 July 1990 in Jomtien, Chonburi, to the wide-ranging discussions on the proposals contained in the draft final report of the Study Team.

We wish to add that we sincerely hope that this report will provide an important basis for planning and implementation in the Upper Central Region of Thailand.

November 20, 1990



Jinichiro Yabuta
Study Team Leader



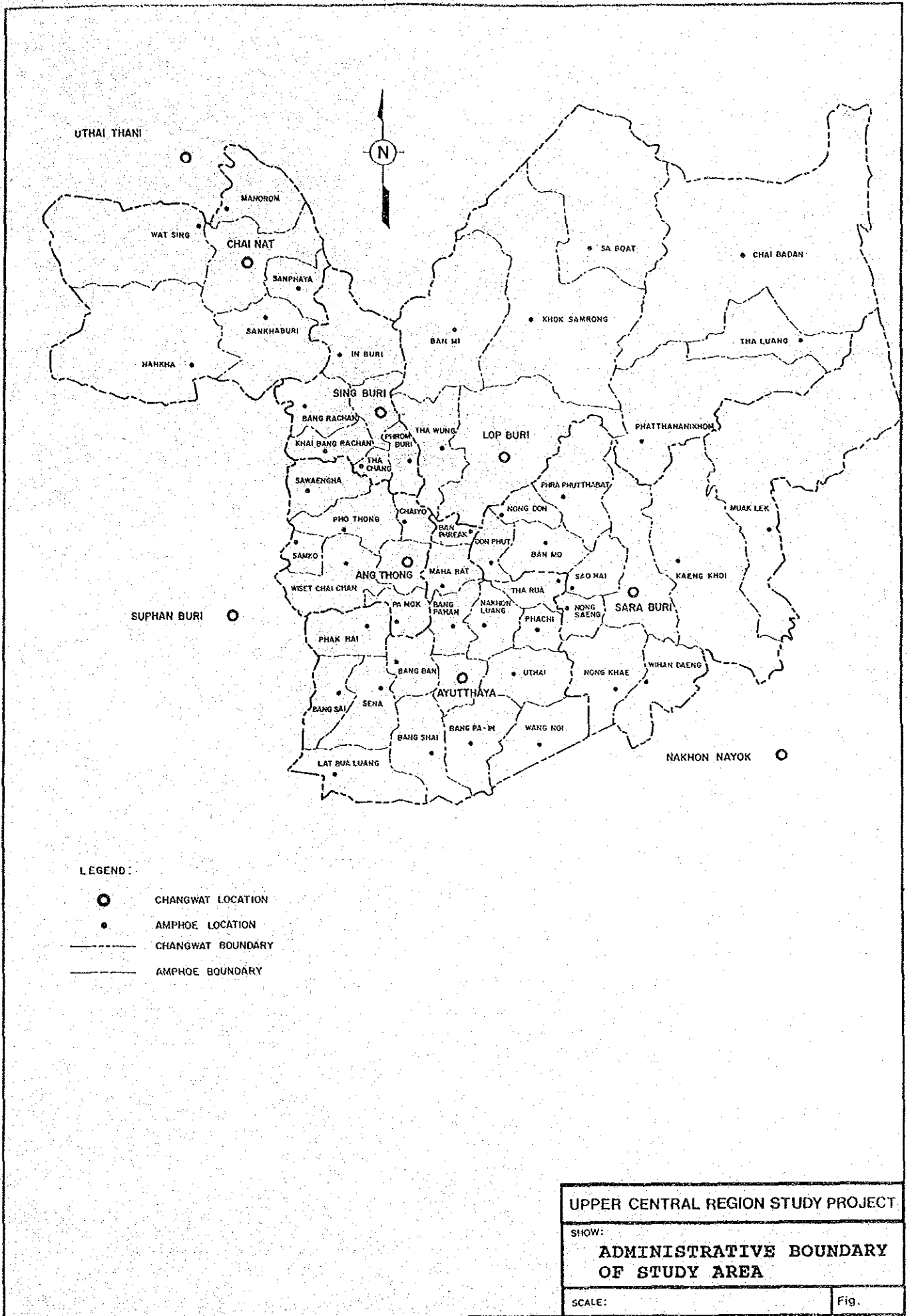
UPPER CENTRAL REGION STUDY PROJECT

SHOW:

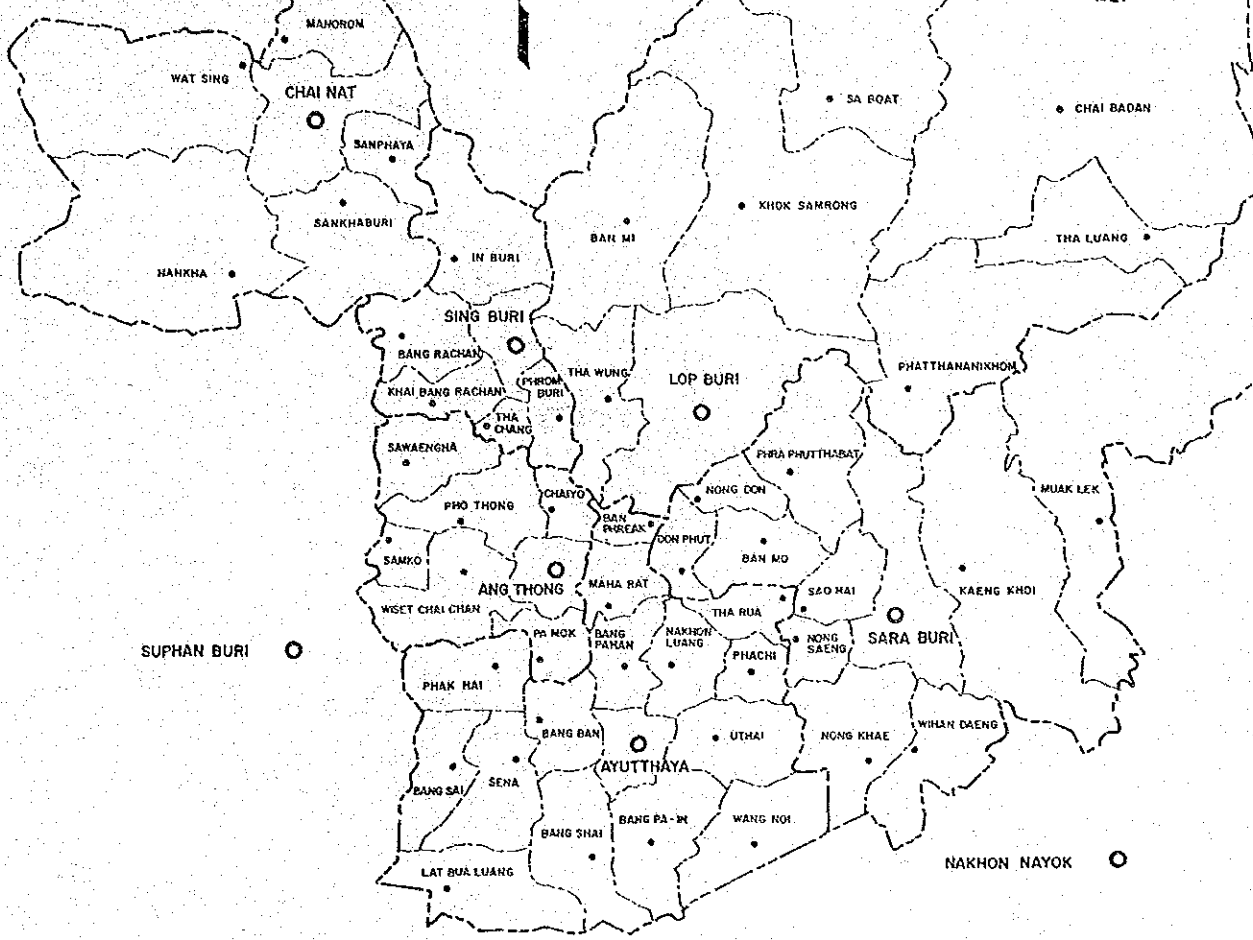
LOCATION MAP

SCALE:

Fig.



UTHAI THANI



LEGEND :

- CHANGWAT LOCATION
- AMPHOE LOCATION
- CHANGWAT BOUNDARY
- AMPHOE BOUNDARY

UPPER CENTRAL REGION STUDY PROJECT	
SHOW:	
ADMINISTRATIVE BOUNDARY OF STUDY AREA	
SCALE:	Fig.

A Summary: Policies and Strategies

Upper Central Region Development

Why Upper Central Region (UCR)

Toward the year 2010, Thailand will have to get through the challenges of :

- (1) shifting export-led to domestic market-based growth,
- (2) balancing development and environment, and
- (3) smoothly transitioning rural to urban employment.

In the national space, these challenges call particularly for :

- (1) decentralizing the capital region systematically, and
- (2) strengthening the linkages between ESB, SSB and other parts of the country, and
- (3) sustaining strategic agricultural and forestry space.

Under these national perspectives, it is the UCR that potentially plays a combined role of :

- (1) National Food Supply Center,
- (2) Subnational Distribution Center, and
- (3) A New Inland Industrial Base,

if this region can overcome :

- (1) the presently unstable rural sector,
- (2) the weak urban sector, and
- (3) consequent regional out-migration.

The UCR is at a crossroads between a tri-sector (agriculture, industry and services) balanced region or a mere transit region over-ridden by sporadic external industrial investments.

Development Policies & Strategies

Objectives of the UCR development are :

1. Maintaining and restoring the ecological environment,
2. Deepening and widening of regional economy, and
3. Enhancing regional human resource base to support the two objectives above.

Recommended policies and strategies are thus as follows:

Agriculture

1. Strengthen capability and willingness of rice farmers,
2. Rehabilitate upland agricultural environment, and
3. Promote linkages between production, processing and market.

Industry

1. Build-up, step-by-step, an industrial development core at Sara Buri,
2. Intensify agro-industrial linkages within the UCR,
3. Foster local entrepreneurship of potential business men, and
4. Control rapidly dispersing industries in Ayutthaya.

Services

1. Develop secondary order centers
2. Develop extensive urban, technological and managerial supporting services at sub-regional urban centers,
3. Strengthen hierarchical system of agricultural distribution, processing and transport network, and
4. Promote tourism especially at Ayutthaya, Lop Buri and Chai Nat

Development Target

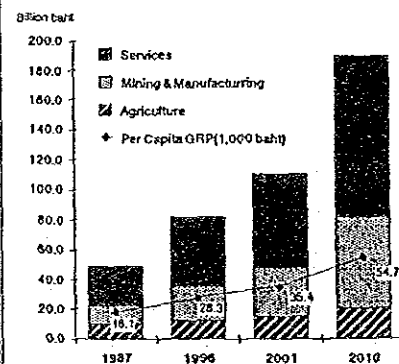
Economic Growth: Toward 2010, it is targeted that per capita GPP growth of the UCR will be accelerated up to that of national average growth rate, 5% p.a. The GPP growth rate will be 6.1% p.a. toward 2010, and sector growth rates are: Agriculture : 1.3%; Manufacturing : 7.0%; and Services : 6.3%.

Population Growth: Population is targeted to growth at a rate of 1.0% so that the targeted per capita GPP will be attained. It will be 3.46 million in 2010, compared with 2.74 million in 1987.

Urbanization: Urban population will increase at a 2.5% growth rate, compared with 1.1% p.a. between 1981 and 1987. The urban population ratio will be 37.2% in 2010.

Employments: Additional 421 thousand job opportunities will newly be created, and a total will be 1.9 million in 2010. The employments in both manufacturing and service sectors shall increase by 588 thousand, while that in agriculture sector will decrease by 147 thousand.

Production Framework (GAP) in the UCR



Profile of Upper Central Region

The Upper Central Region (the UCR) consists of 6 Changwats: Ayutthaya, Sara Buri, Ang Thong, Sing Buri, Lop Buri and Chai Nat, having the population of about 2.7 million and the area of 16,6 thousand sq. km. The UCR is located in the Chao Phraya River Basin Area, an agricultural (particularly rice) advanced region in the Kingdom, and environmentally sensitive.

The UCR is on a frontage of the expanding Bangkok economy, and has been pressured by urbanization and industrialization. Thus, the UCR is a pioneer to the national challenge of agro-industrial coexistence by widening and deepening the UCR economy. For the second generation development of the Thai economy, the UCR's gateway function would be more significant.

Key Concepts for the Upper Central Region Development

Agricultural Diversification and Agro-Industrial Linkage

In order to stabilize income of the farmers, being the leading players in sustaining agricultural and ecological environment, a must is the agricultural diversification at the farmer level. With good access to the expanding and diversifying market in Bangkok, the agricultural diversification should be supported by the intensified linkages among crop production, livestock and processing networks as well as by the improved urban and transport infrastructures.

Industrialization for A New Industrial Base

The country will call in the UCR a strong magnet as (1) one of the centers to facilitate deconcentration of Bangkok, (2) a means to prevent extensive industrial pollution and agro-industrial conflicts, (3) a base to attain agro-processing agglomeration, and (4) an inland supporting base for the Eastern Sea-Board to maximize its spread effect.

Sara Buri offers the best seat of this magnet. Local infrastructure, urban and human resource development should be integrated in timely response to ongoing and forthcoming national projects.

Gateway as A Subnational Distribution Center

The UCR is situated at the gateway of Bangkok to the North and Northeast Regions. In other words, the UCR is in a best position to make use of development in other regions. In addition to traditional concentration of agricultural products, new transport and energy infrastructure inputs will boost various industrial and business opportunities.

Integrated Urbanization and Service Sector Encouragement

Urban and service sector encouragement is strategic to regional development especially in the UCR in order to (1) support externally dependent and thus unstable rural sector, (2) provide nonagricultural job opportunities for decelerating out-migration to Bangkok and (3) offset a missing link existing between foreign-investment-led industrial expansion and regional economic development.

Of particular importance are to meet Basic Urban Needs (BUNs), encourage local entrepreneurship and improve goods distribution functions in selected urban centers at regional level.

Human Resource Development

Focusing on (1) Middle level manpower for industries, (2) Community leaders for environmental management and (3) potential local entrepreneurs.

Environment and Water Resources Management

Special importance lies in (1) keeping the Chao Phraya River clean and conserving flood retarding areas for the survival of Bangkok and (2) maximizing water use efficiency and rehabilitating upland soils for the UCR's agriculture of national importance to be maintained. High priority should be given to (1) the integrated management of water and land use for two river basins of Chao Phraya and the Pasak and (2) the strengthened institutions at not only central but local levels to explore environmental control.

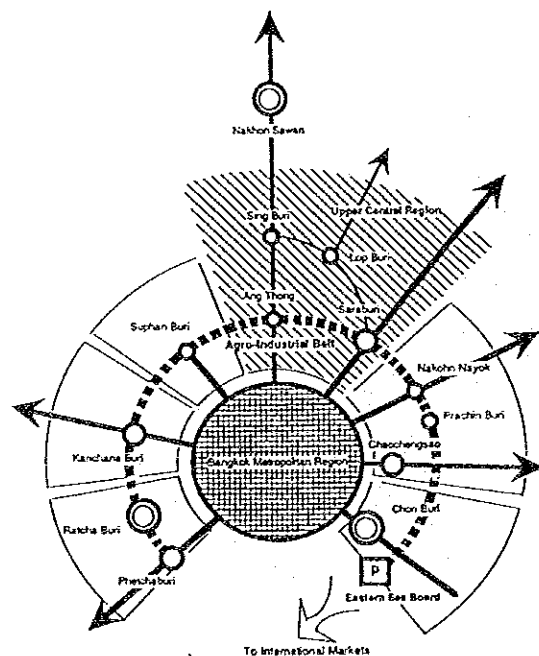
Implementation & Development Management Systems

Unlike the regional development triggered by intensive central government investments, the UCR development will need not only central initiative but effective management particularly at the local level. Of particular importance are (1) local planning system to meet the cross-boundary expansion of urban and industrial activities, (2) institutional measures to realize the scale of economy in urban services and (3) strengthened financial base of local authorities so as to encourage local initiatives in public investments and business promotion.

Spatial Setting

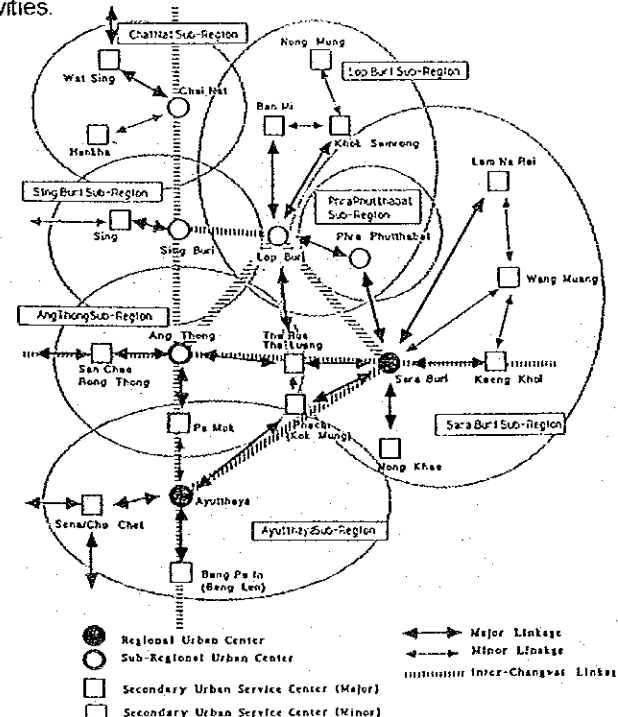
Macro-Spatial Framework

To assure effective economic links between major urban centers centering on Bangkok and the Eastern Sea-Board functions, a well organized macro-spatial network is necessary. The UCR may be situated in the Suburban Agro-Industrial Belt.



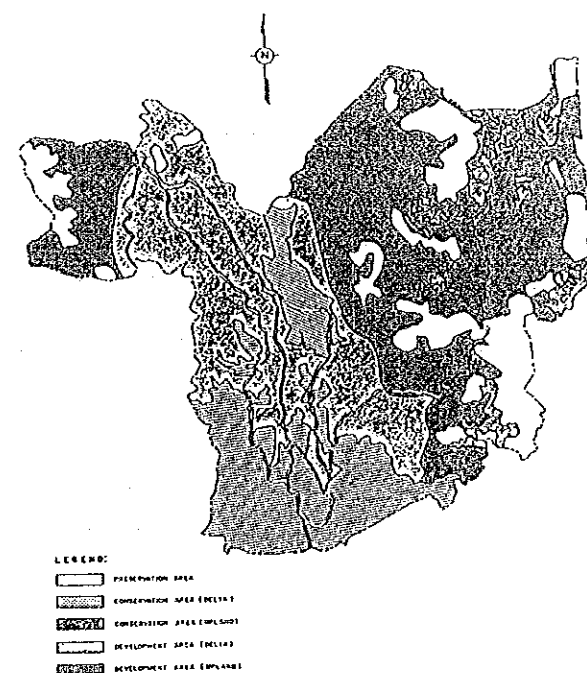
Human Settlement System

Sub-regional system with a urban center hierarchy should be formulated as a basis of regional development. This system assure relations between urban functions and their hinterland activities.



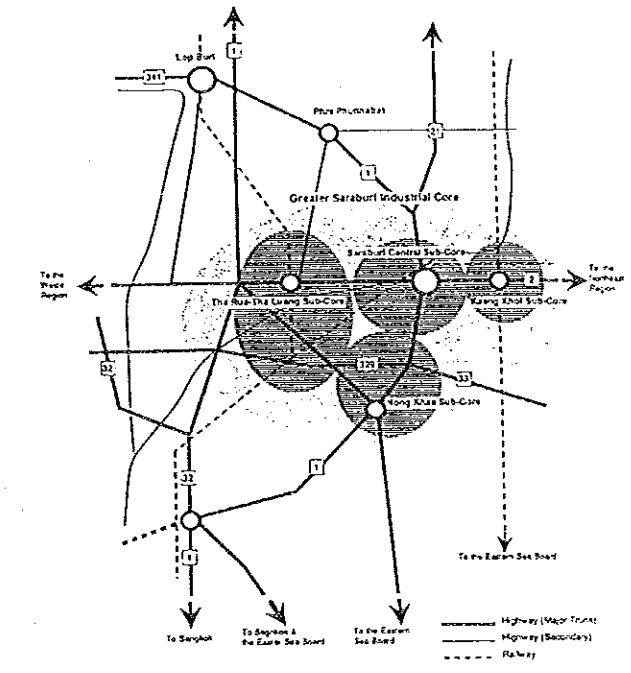
Appropriate Land Use

A clear-cut land use zoning system is essential for a balanced development with an appropriate use of natural environmental resources.

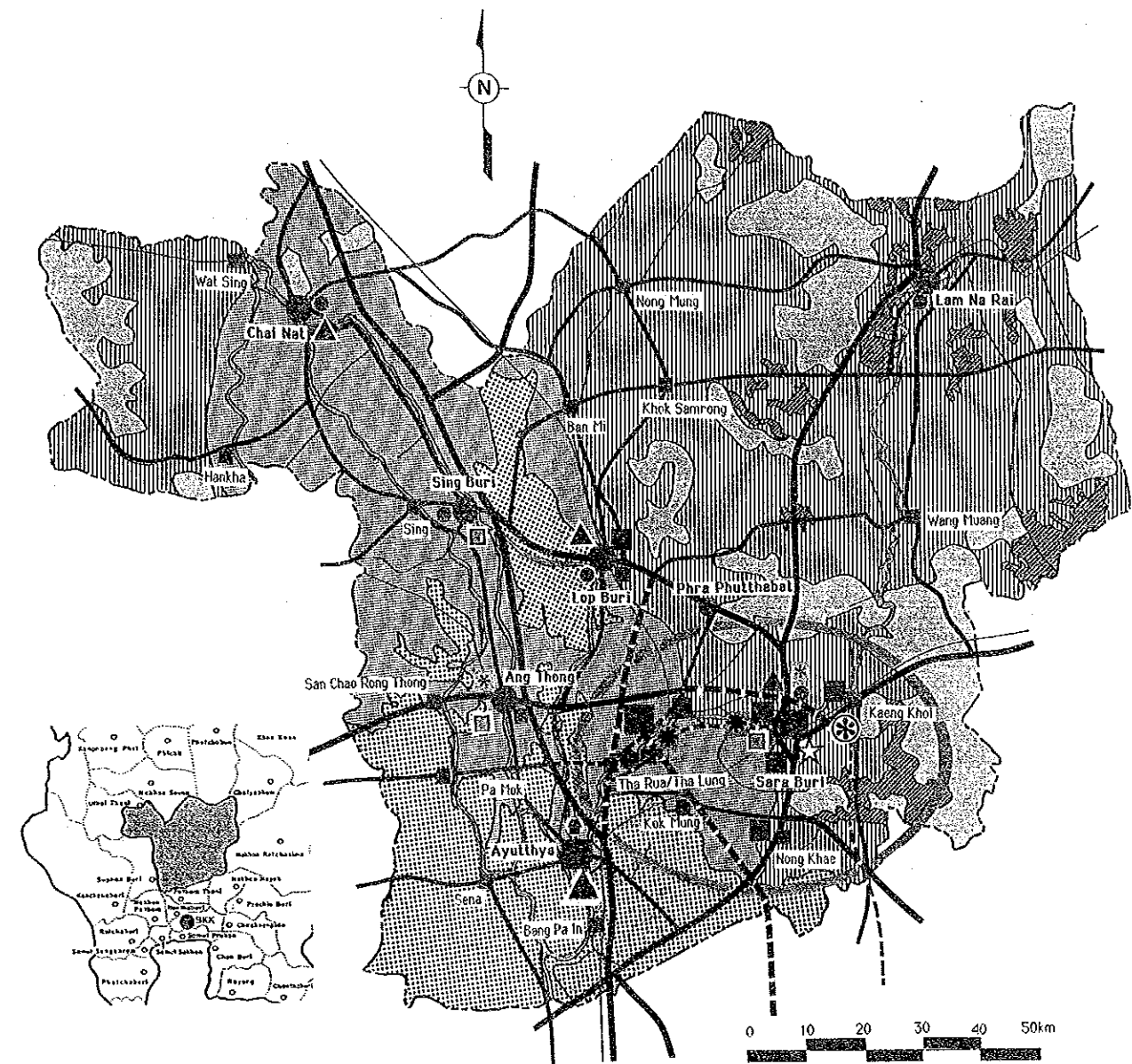
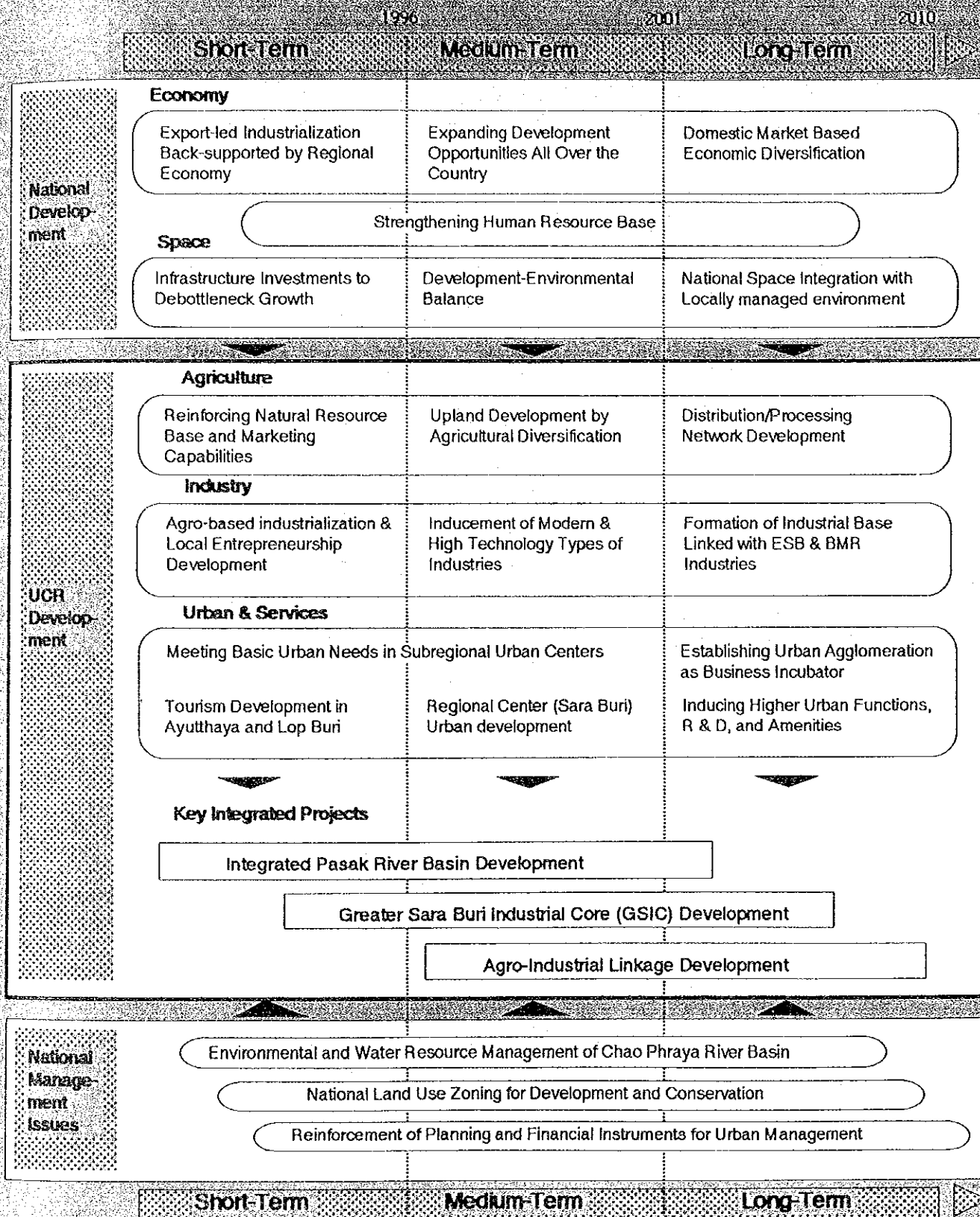


Greater Sara Buri Industrial Core (GSIC) Development

The GSIC development is recommended to receive the potential activities for industrialization and urbanization, being a new inland industrial basis linking with the sea-board development.



Development Strategies & Phasing



Legend

Land Use Zoning

- Development Area (Delta)
- Conservation Area (Delta)
- Development Area (Upland)
- Conservation Area (Upland)
- Preservation Area

Human Settlement Center

- Regional Urban Center
- Sub-Regional Urban Center
- Secondary Major Center

Transportation & Energy


- Arterial Road (Existing)
- Arterial Road (Proposed)
- Collector Road (Existing)
- Collector Road (Proposed)
- Railway (Existing)
- Railway (Planned)
- Goods Distribution Center
- Inter-Modal Transport Facilities (Container Yard & Inland Depot)
- Energy Center

Industrial and Urban Facilities

- Industrial Estates
- Agro-industrial Park
- Business Incubator Center
- Agro-Tech Center
- Handicraft Promotion Center
- Wholesale Food Market
- Higher Educational Facility
- Regional Medical Center
- Regional Tourism Center
- Tourism Promotion Areas
- Greater Sara Buri Industrial Core

General Development Plan 2010 In the Upper Central Region

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(This volume is indicated by  .)

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- Vol. 1 Spatial Framework and Network for Development
- Vol. 2 Urban Management
- Vol. 3 Environmental Management
- Vol. 4 Water Resource Management, Agricultural Development and Land Use Management
- Vol. 5 Industrial Development
- Vol. 6 Distribution and Marketing
- Vol. 7 Energy
-  Vol. 8  Social Development in Rural Economies
- Vol. 9 International and National Economic Environment
- Vol. 10 Human Resource Development
- Vol. 11 Landsat Analysis

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LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS USED

ALRO	Agricultural Land Reform office
BAAC	Bank for Agriculture and Agricultural Cooperation
BOI	Board of Investments
CP	Charoen Pokphand
CUSRI	Chulalongkorn University Social Research Institute
GRP	Gross Regional Products
MOAC	Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives
NRD	National Rural Development
UCR	Upper Central Region

1. CLASSIFICATION OF AGRICULTURAL AREAS IN THE UCR

As one examines the data on the various changwats of the UCR, one is struck by the considerable diversity from one changwat to the other and from one amphoe to the other regarding relative magnitudes in area, population sizes and composition, soil characteristics and their suitability for different types of crops. Although for practical reasons, i.e., for purposes of development administration by units of local government, agricultural development planning and implementation is carried out in the parameters of changwat boundaries, the changwat concept as such does not provide a useful tool for regional agricultural development planning.

At this point, it is useful to briefly examine the diversity mentioned as a first introduction to the UCR and it provides the insights on the agricultural livelihood characteristics of the target population of the study.

Table 1.1 provides spatial and population characteristics for each changwat in relation to the overall characteristics of the UCR. These include total area in km², total rural population (exclusive of municipalities and sanitary districts), density of population, total landed households (i.e., operators of agricultural land -- cultivator-farmers as distinguished from those engaging in other occupations), and, finally, density of this landed population per area of cultivable land. A clear dichotomy appears between two groups of changwats. Ayutthaya, Lopburi and Saraburi, the larger changwats areas and populations, are those with the lower level of population density. Angthong, Singburi, Chainat on the other hand are the smaller changwats, both area and population wise, but have the higher level of population density. One would logically expect farmers to cultivate with the greatest intensity. It is interesting to note that although ranking 4th in area and overall population among the UCR changwats, Chainat has the second largest landed population after that of Lopburi.

Table 1.1 Spatial and Population Characteristics of the UCR Changwats

	Chainat	Singburi	Angthong	Ayutthaya	Lopburi	Saraburi	UCR
1. Area (km ²)	2,469.8	822.4	981.1	2,547.7	6,199.7	3,576.5	16,597.1
-UCR %	14.9	5.0	5.9	15.4	37.3	21.5	100.0
-UCR rank	4	6	5	3	1	2	-
2. Rural villages	415	288	435	1,230	1,003	867	4,238
3. Rural population	242,811	123,753	170,506	366,092	466,246	278,130	1,647,538
-UCR %	14.7	7.5	10.3	22.2	28.3	16.7	100.0
-UCR rank	4	6	5	2	1	3	-
4. Density rural population per km ²	98.3	150.5	173.8	143.7	75.2	77.8	99.3
-UCR rank	4	2	1	3	6	5	-
5. Rural households	52,795	26,976	36,511	72,175	94,404	57,990	340,851
-mean per village	127.2	93.7	83.9	58.7	94.1	66.9	80.4
-mean members per hh	4.5	4.6	4.7	5.1	4.9	4.8	4.8
6. Cultivator farmer households	42,103	16,866	21,966	35,654	66,615	35,183	218,387
-UCR %	19.3	7.7	10.1	16.3	30.5	16.1	100.0
-UCR rank	2	6	5	3	1	4	-
7. Density of farmer hh per km ² of cultivable land	31.1	32.8	35.8	22.4	19.4	21.6	23.9
-UCR rank	3	2	1	4	6	5	-

Source: NRD-2-C, 1988.

JICA UCR Study Team from "Detailed Reconnaissance Soil Map of Chainat, Singburi, Angthon, Phranakhom Si Ayutthaya, Saraburi, Lopburi."

Table 1.2 UCR Soil Potential for Crops by Changwat

	Total area 1,000 rai (%)	Rank	Paddy only area (%)	Rank	Paddy and upland crops (%)	Rank	Upland crops only (%)	Rank	Not suitable (%)	Rank
1. Chainat	1,543.6 (14.9)	4	671.4 (13.9)	4	358.9 (11.4)	3	324.8 (28.6)	1	188.4 (15.2)	3
2. Singburi	514.0 (5.0)	6	291.8 (6.0)	6	63.3 (2.0)	4	158.9 (14.0)	4	0.0	-
3. Angthong	613.2 (5.9)	5	382.6 (7.9)	5	57.1 (1.8)	5	173.4 (15.3)	3	0.0	-
4. Ayutthaya	1,592.3 (15.4)	3	1,417.3 (29.3)	1	20.0 (0.6)	6	154.9 (13.7)	5	0.0	-
5. Lopburi	3,874.8	1	1,147.6	2	2,089.5	1	192.8	2	444.9	2
6. Saraburi	2,235.3 (21.5)	2	932.2 (19.2)	3	566.7 (18.0)	2	129.5 (11.4)	6	606.9 (48.9)	1
UCR	10,373.2 (100.0)		4,843.1 (100.0)		3,155.6 (100.0)		1,134.3 (100.0)		1,240.2 (100.0)	

Source : UCR Study Team from "Detailed Reconnaissance Soil Map of Chainat, Singburi, Angthong, Phranakhon Si Ayutthaya, Saraburi, Lopburi."

Table 1.2 provides information on UCR soil potential for crops by changwat. The break down by amphoes is presented graphically in Figures 1.6. Soil potential is indicated following four categories : suitable for paddy only, suitable for both paddy and upland crops, suitable for upland crops only, and not suitable for cropping. While the figures presented do not necessarily represent actual cropping patterns, they do provide a clue as to where various types of crops are produced. They also provide a useful planning tool for various agricultural development strategies such as crop diversification, multiple cropping, etc.

The data make clear that the classification of agricultural areas in the UCR on the basis of changwat boundaries is unreliable. Thus, although Ayutthaya, Angthong, Singburi and Chainat are usually considered to be paddy growing changwats while Saraburi and Lopburi are identified as upland crop area, there is considerable overlapping between these two groups. Thus 43% of the "suitable for paddy only" land of the UCR is located in Saraburi and Lopburi, which is more than that found in Chainat, Singburi and Angthong. On the other hand, There is more "upland crop only" land in these 3 changwats than is found in Lopburi and Saraburi together. The most versatile land of course is that suitable for both paddy and upland crops. 96% of this type of land is found in Lopburi, Saraburi and Chainat, the largest area being in Lopburi (66%).

For the purposes of identifying and mapping out agricultural areas of the UCR with some detail, one can best proceed on an amphoe by amphoe basis, selecting out for each category amphoes with more than 50% of their surface having the soil characteristics of that category. Paddy growing area is not a useful category because paddy can be grown on more than 50% of their surface in all but 4 amphoes of the UCR. Similarly paddy and upland crop areas and upland crop only areas are not useful categories because there are fewer than 4 amphoes in the UCR having these characteristics for more than 50% of their surface.

Agricultural areas that can usefully be distinguished are as follows:

1.1 Paddy only area (See map-Figure 1.7)

This area includes 36 amphoes in which more than 50% of their surface is suitable for paddy only:

Chainat: Watsing

Singburi: Thachang, Bangrachan, Inburi, Khaibang-rachan

Anthong: Muang, Chaiyo, Pamok, Phothong, Samko, Wisetchaichan

Ayutthaya: all 16 amphoes

Loburi: Thawung, Banmi

Saraburi: Muang, Banmo, Wihandaeng, Saohai, Nongkhae, Nongsaeng,
Donphut

Most but not all of these amphoes include some land on which upland crops can be produced but not enough for it to be done on a scale comparable to paddy production which, of necessity, must be the main crop of the amphoe.

1.2. Major upland crop potential area (See map-Figure 1.8)

This area includes 18 amphoes in which more than 50% of their surface is composed of soil suitable for paddy and upland crops and/or suitable for upland crops only. The distribution is as follows:

Chainat: Muang, Manorom, Sankhaburi, Sanphaya, Hankha

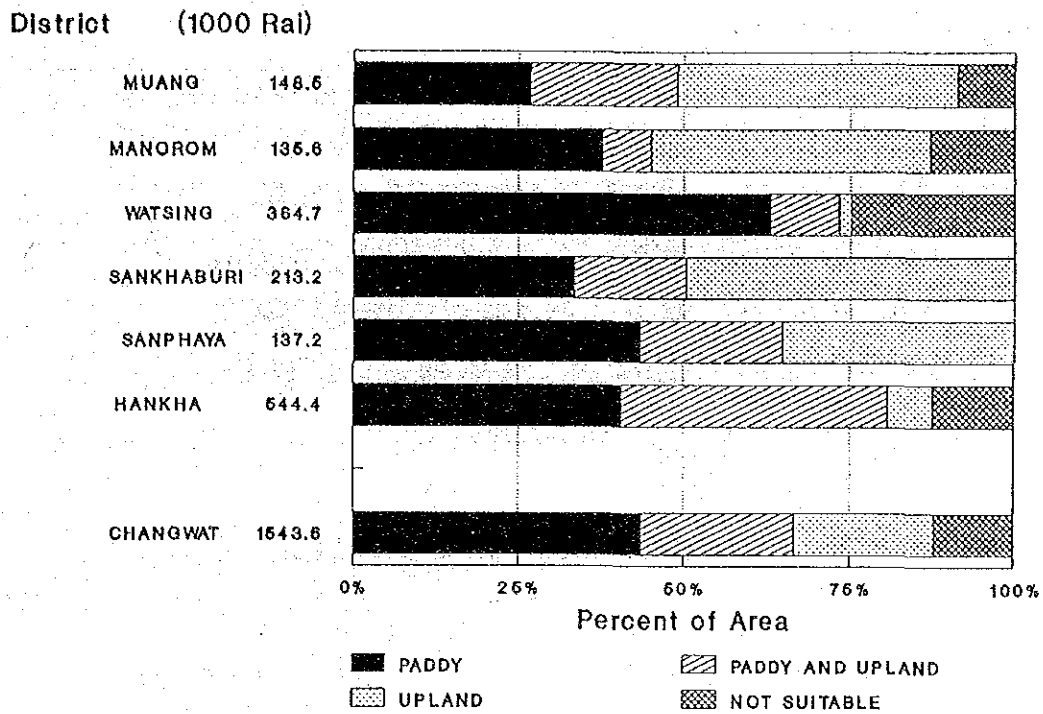
Singburi: Muang, Phromburi

Angthong: Sawaengha

Lopburi (1986 boundaries): Muang, Khoksamrong, Chaibadan,
Phatthananihom, Thaluang, Sabot

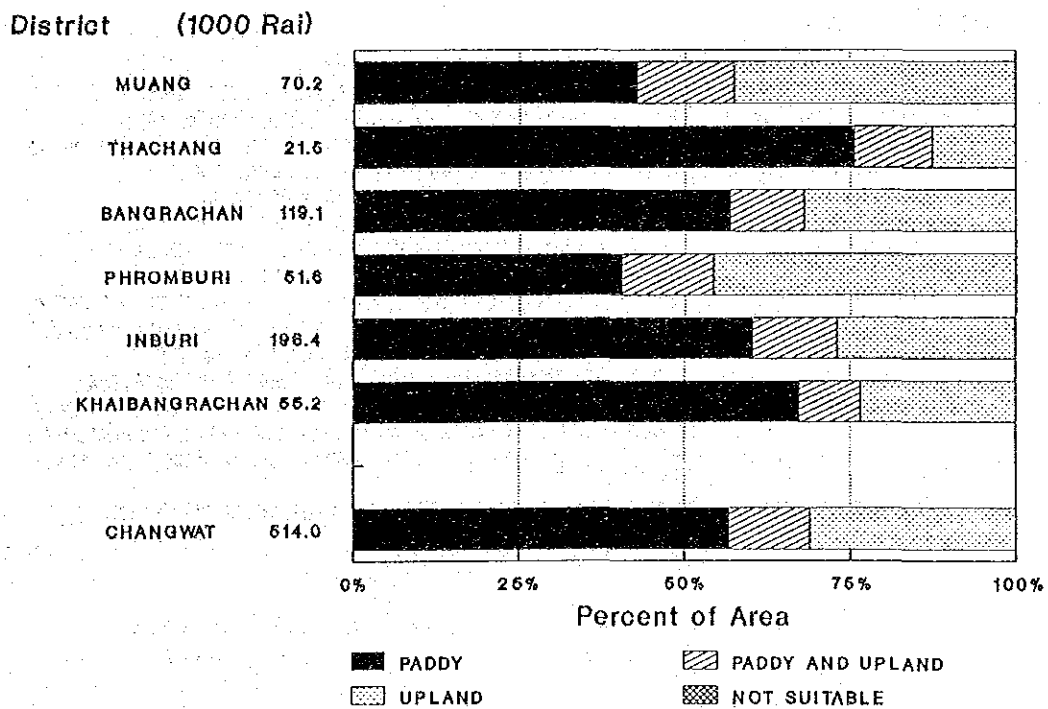
Saraburi: Kacngkhai (>50% of cultivable area), Phraphutthabat, Muaklek,
Nongdon

This area offers more flexibility than the first in that in most locations both paddy and upland crops can be grown. It offers more scope for crop diversification to adapt to market conditions and for soil improvement practices such as crop rotation.



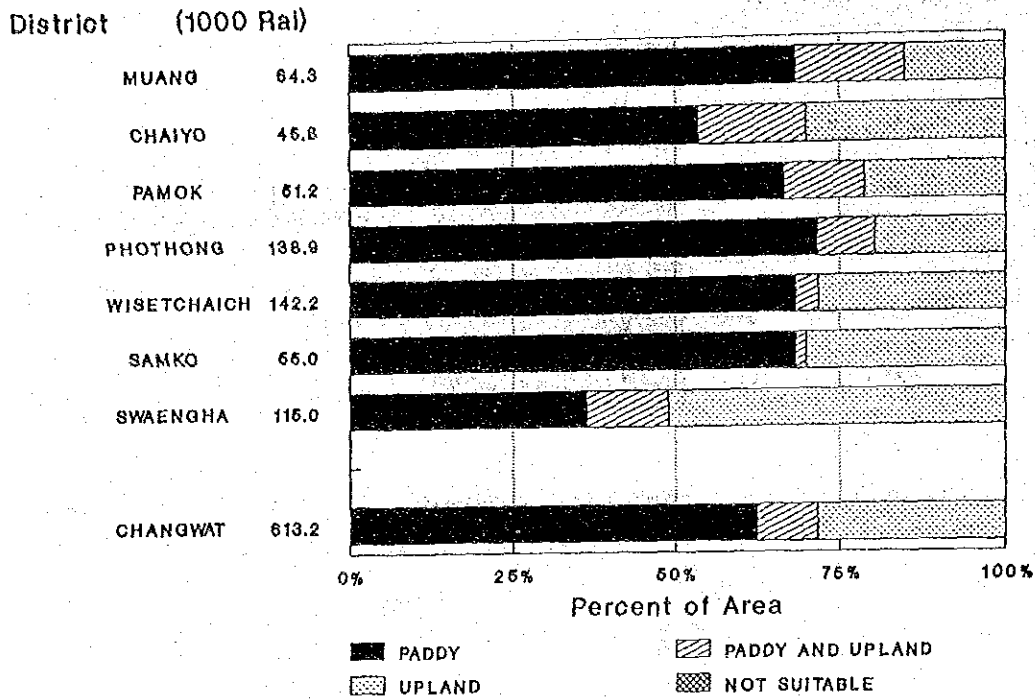
Source: NESDB/JICA UCR Study Team

Figure 1.1 UCR Soil Potential for Crops in Chainat



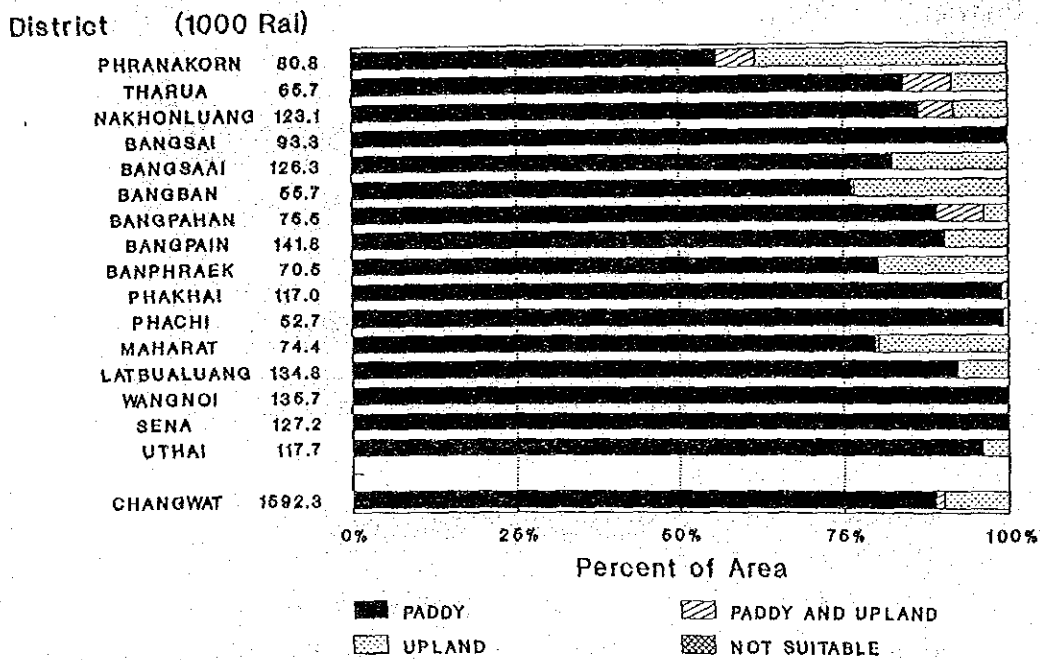
Source: NESDB/JICA UCR Study Team

Figure 1.2 UCR Soil Potential for Crops in Singburi



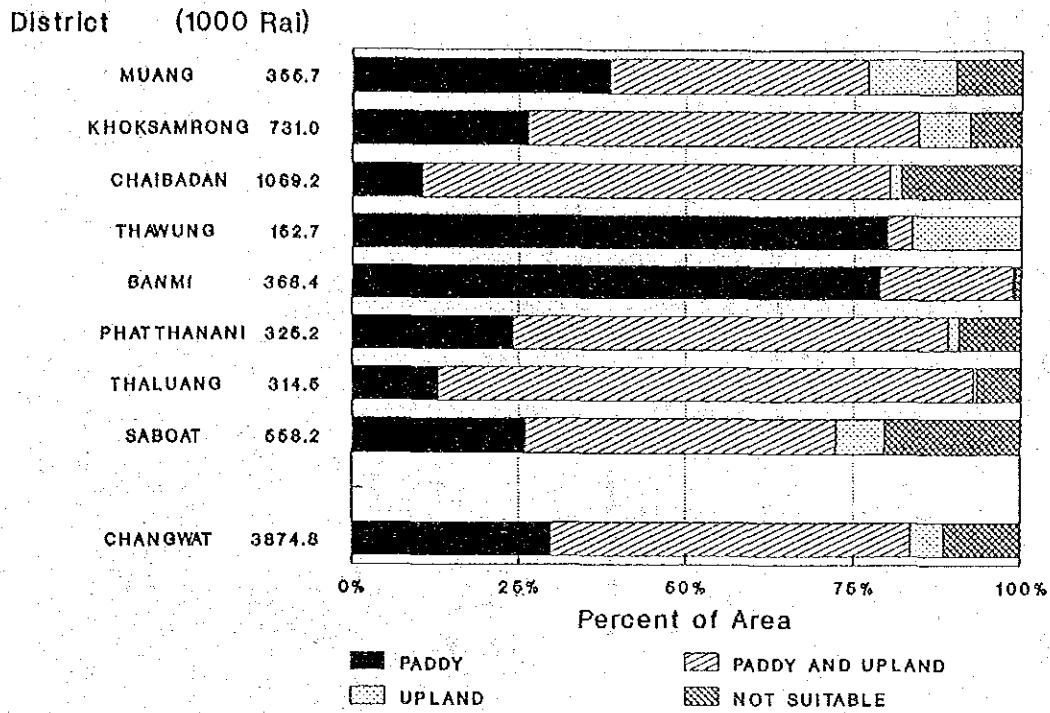
Source: NESDB/JICA UCR Study Team

Figure 1.3 UCR Soil Potential for Crops In Angthong



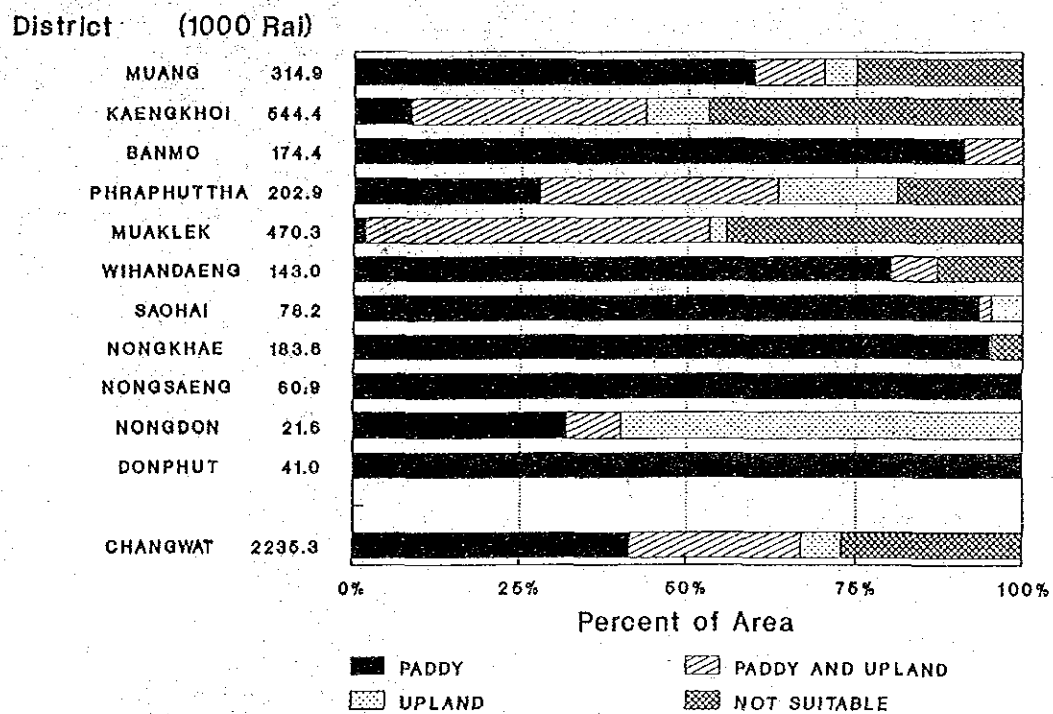
Source: NESDB/JICA UCR Study Team

Figure 1.4 UCR Soil Potential for Crops In Ayutthaya



Source: NESDB/JICA UCR Study Team

Figure 1.5 UCR Soil Potential for Crops In Lopburi



Source: NESDB/JICA UCR Study Team

Figure 1.6 UCR Soil Potential for Crops In Saraburi

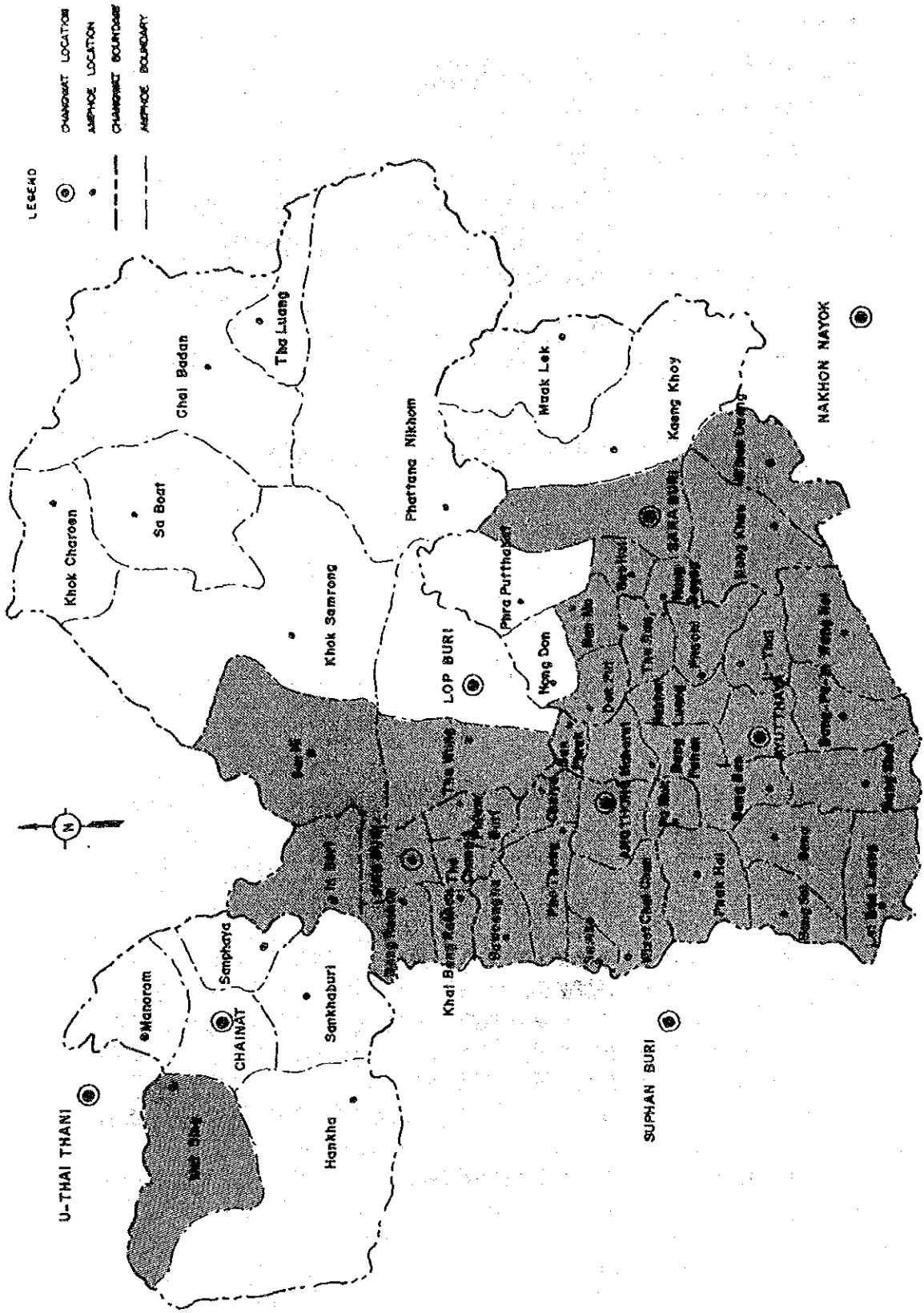


Figure 1.7 UCR PADDY ONLY AREA

