

2.1.4 Agricultural Area

(1) Farmland

Land use pattern in the NBR is shown in Table 2.5. Approximately 56% of land is for farmland while, remaining 44% of the land is for forest, grass land, built-up area and so on. Among the farmland, 11,184 Km² or approximately 43% of total area of NBR is paddy field, approximately 13.7% of the land are upland crop area.

Table 2.5 Land Use Composition

	Area (km ²)	%
Paddy	11,184	42.9
Upland Crops	3,560	13.7
Uncultivated land	1,110	4.2
Forest	6,894	26.4
Grass land	1,721	6.6
Built-up Area	849	3.3
Water Bodies	768	2.9
Total	26,086	100.0

Note: Irrigated areas in Lam Pao and Nam Un projects are cultivated in dry season.
However, paddy field is not identified in Dec. 1995 due to after harvest season.

*1 LandSat June 1999

Source: JICA PLANET Study Team

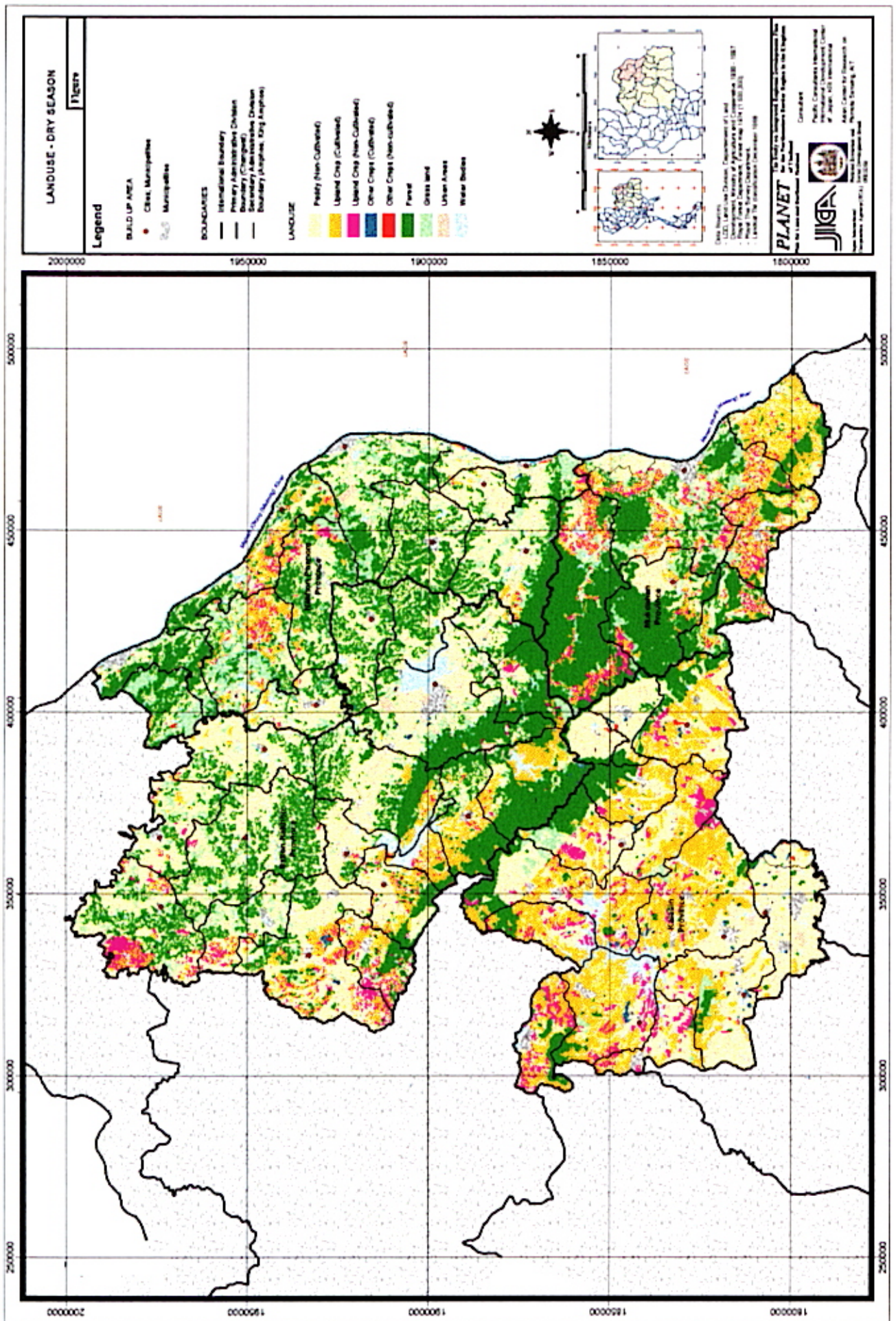


Figure 2.8 Land Use in Dry Season

(2) Land Reform Area

The agricultural land reform office (ALRO) has been carrying out agricultural land reform projects for a long time. By these projects, mainly forested areas have been developed to be allocated to landless farmers or to officially give land titles to the squatting farmers who engage in forest exploitation. Accordingly, the land-reformed areas are scattered around Phu Phan Mountains, as shown in Figure 2.9.

According to Table 2.6, 98 land reform projects have been carried out in the NBR during 1975 to 1999. By these projects, 2.6 million rai of land are allocated to the farmers, which are approximately 16% of the total land of the NBR.

Table 2.6 No. of Land Reform Projects in the NBR

	No. of Project	Area (rai)	% of Land Reform Area in Total Area
Nakhon Phanom	25	439,627	12.8%
Sakon Nakhon	23	1,043,755	17.4%
Mukdahan	17	495,865	18.3%
Kalasin	33	665,030	15.3%
Total	98	2,644,277	16.0%

Source: ALRO, Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives