

Propositions

Attached to this thesis

Activity and Income Diversification: Trends, Determinants, and Effects on Poverty Reduction *The case of the Mekong River Delta*

Le Tan Nghiem

International Institute of Social Studies

Erasmus University Rotterdam

1. Despite the continuing importance of farm self-employment in the Mekong River Delta, there has been a clear movement away from reliance on farming activities and a movement toward non-farming activities across all expenditure groups. (Chapter 2)
2. Household labour capacity in terms of both labour quantity and labour quality, increases the level of participation in non-farm wage employment. (Chapter 3)
3. Across all education levels, labour demanded appears to outstrip labour supply in the rural parts of the Mekong River Delta. (Chapter 3)
4. Diversification into non-farm wage employment and consumption are jointly determined by household labour capacity, which implies a positive effect of diversification on living standards. (Chapter 4)
5. Household access to land increases consumption but prevents movement out of farming activities. (Chapter 4)
6. Inequality in per capita expenditure is unlikely to be a serious problem in Vietnam.
7. Economic growth in Vietnam is likely to benefit both males and females equally despite the influence of Confucian values.
8. Although migrants tend to be males, an increasing proportion of females are moving to urban and industrial zones in Vietnam.
9. Climate change will increase landlessness mainly in the two biggest deltas (Mekong River Delta and Red River Delta) of the country.
10. Women in urban areas want less children but invest more in each child while women in rural areas want more children but invest less in each child.
11. Where there is a will, there is a way (*Vietnamese proverb*).