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Skills for the rural economy in Asia and the Pacific

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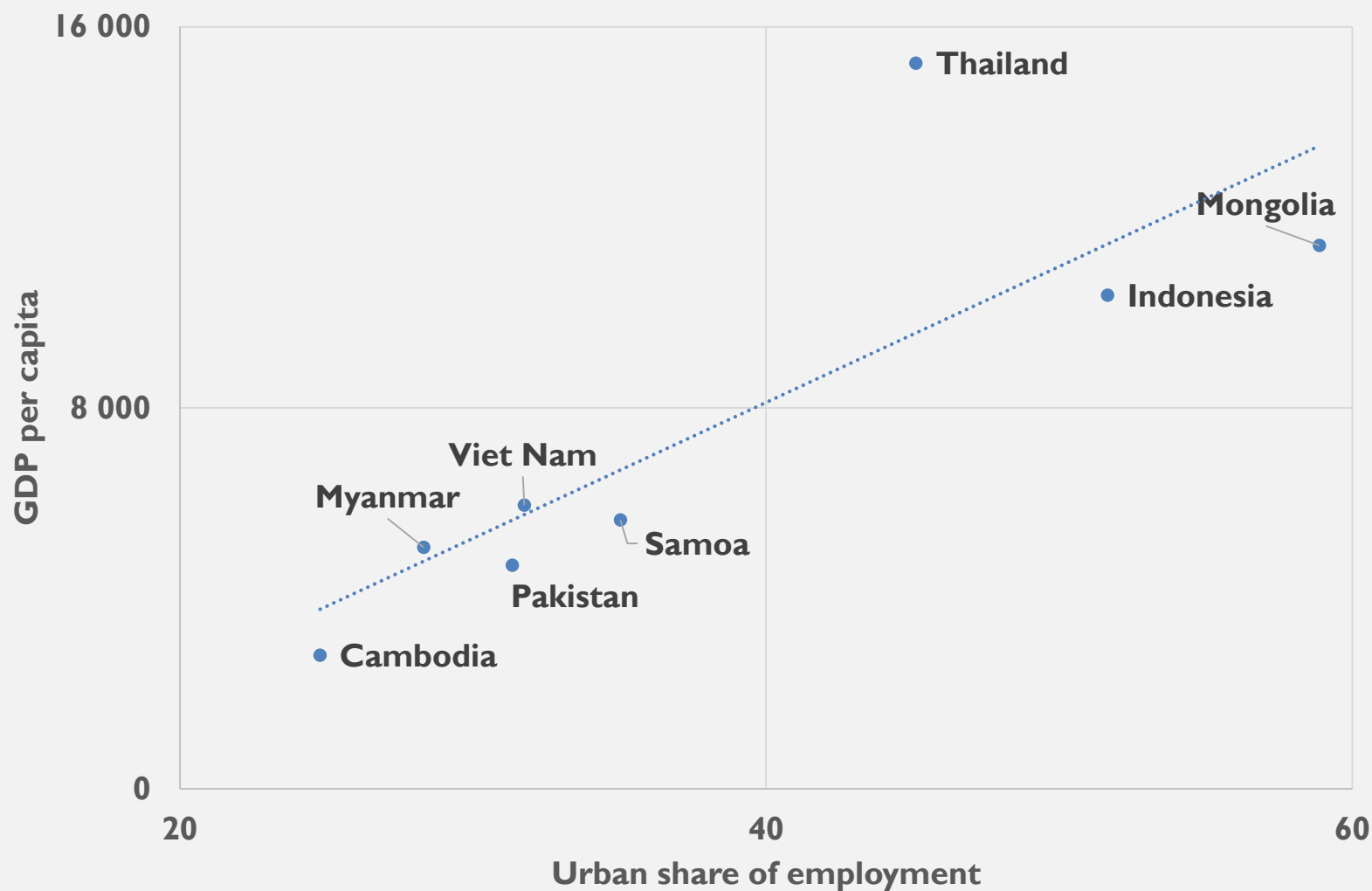
Crowne Plaza Hotel, Vientiane
22 November 2018



- ❑ **Trends and challenges**
- ❑ **Skills for the rural economy**
- ❑ **Policies for inclusive rural transformation**

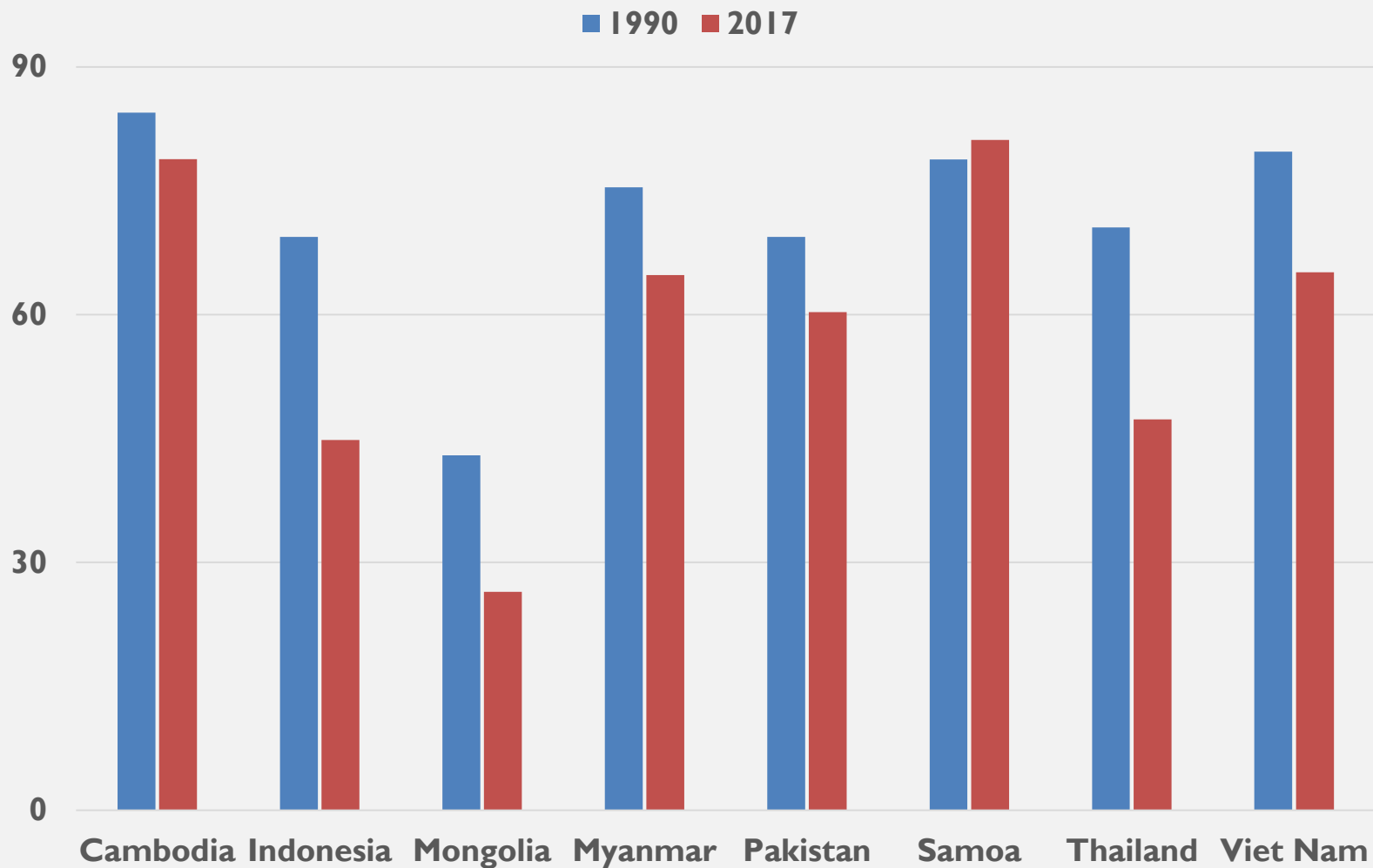
Urbanization associated with higher incomes

Urban share of employment (per cent) and GDP per capita (constant 2011 international \$)



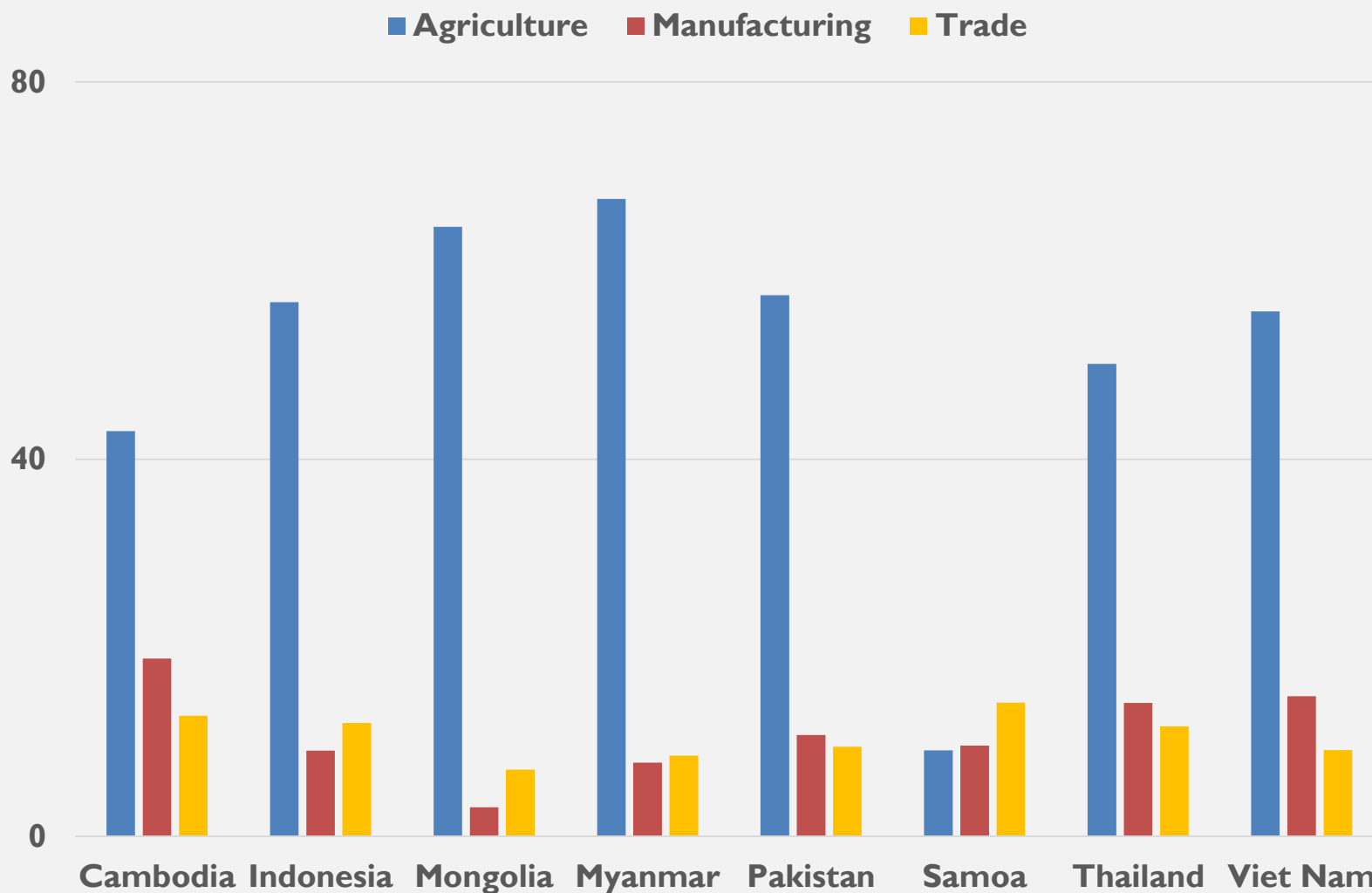
Rural population is declining but still massive

Rural share of total population (per cent)



Rural areas are diversified beyond agriculture

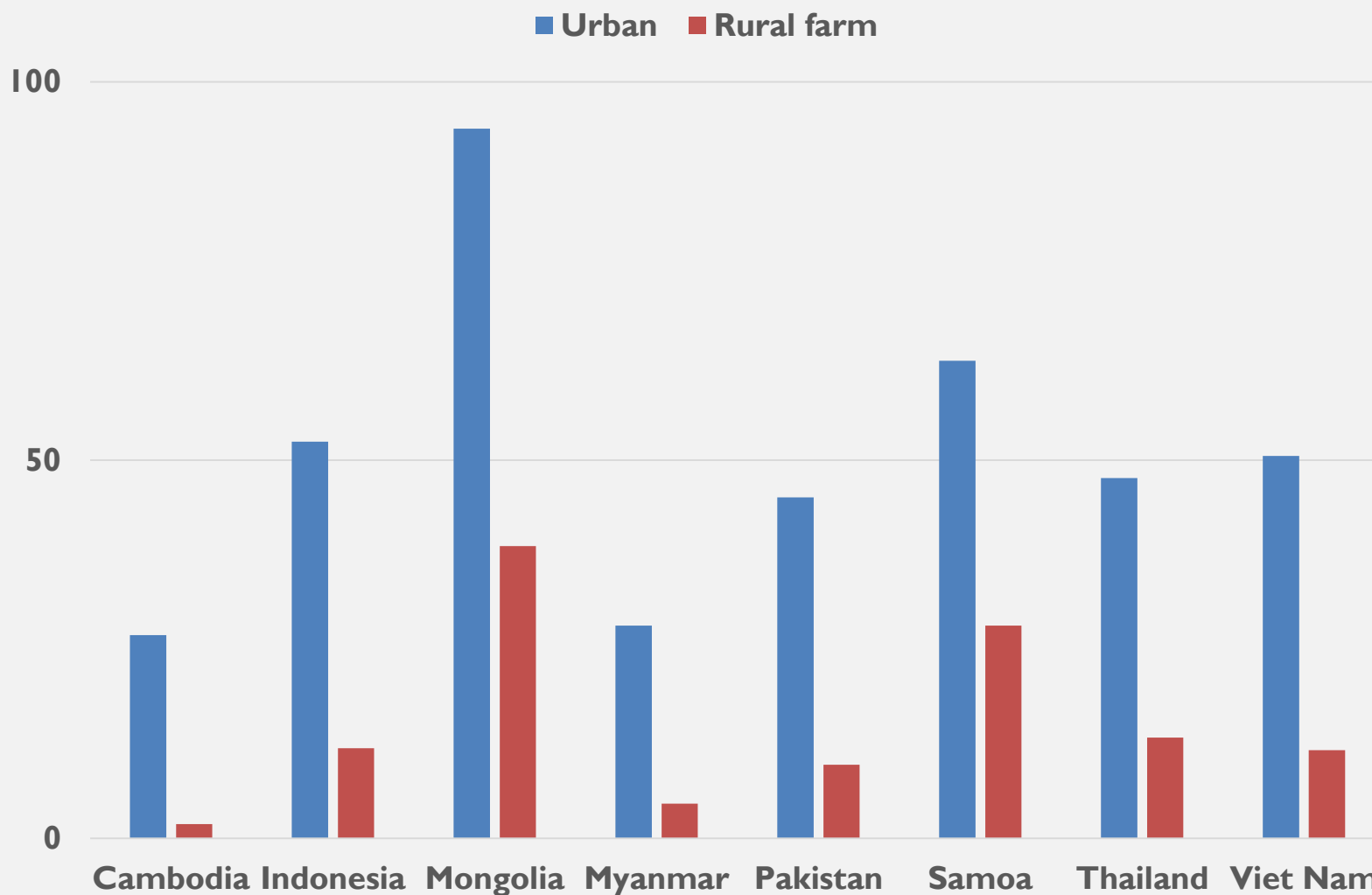
Employment by key economic sector in rural areas (per cent)



Source: P. Huynh (2018).

Wide education gaps persist in rural farming

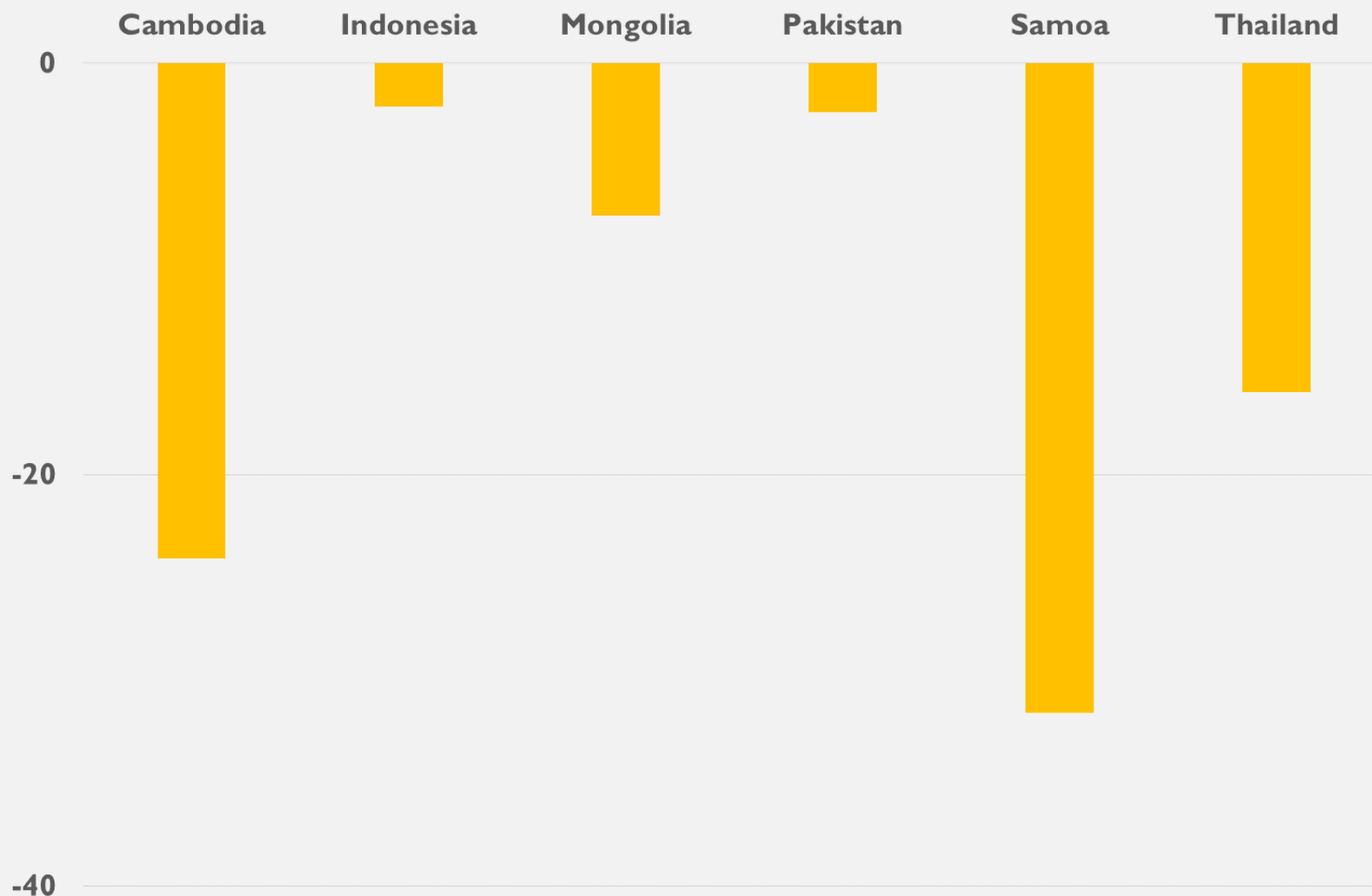
Share of employed persons with upper secondary education and above (per cent)



Source: P. Huynh (2018).

Better job matching would boost rural wages

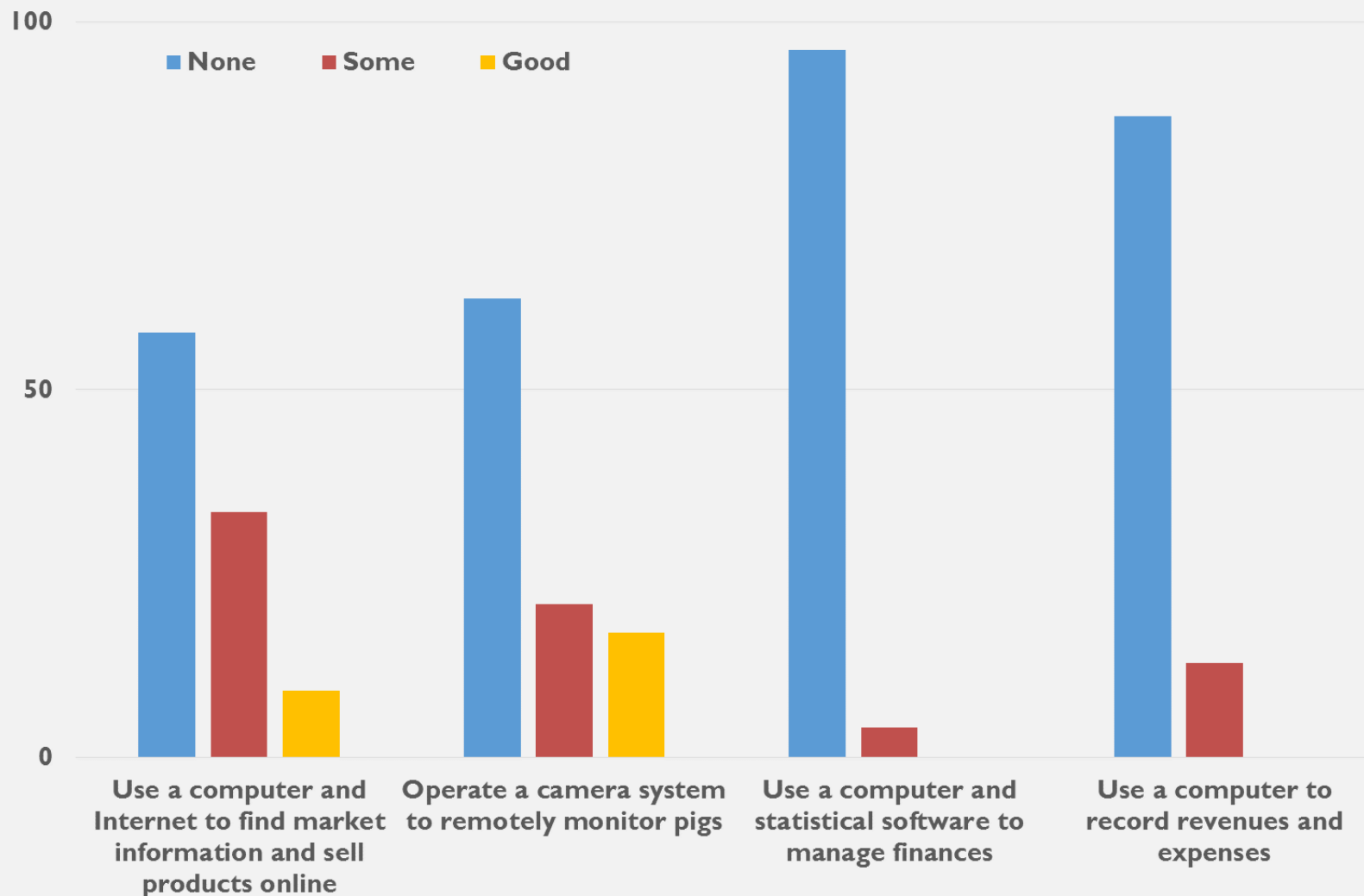
Rural wage penalty for overqualified employees (per cent)



Source: P. Huynh (2018).

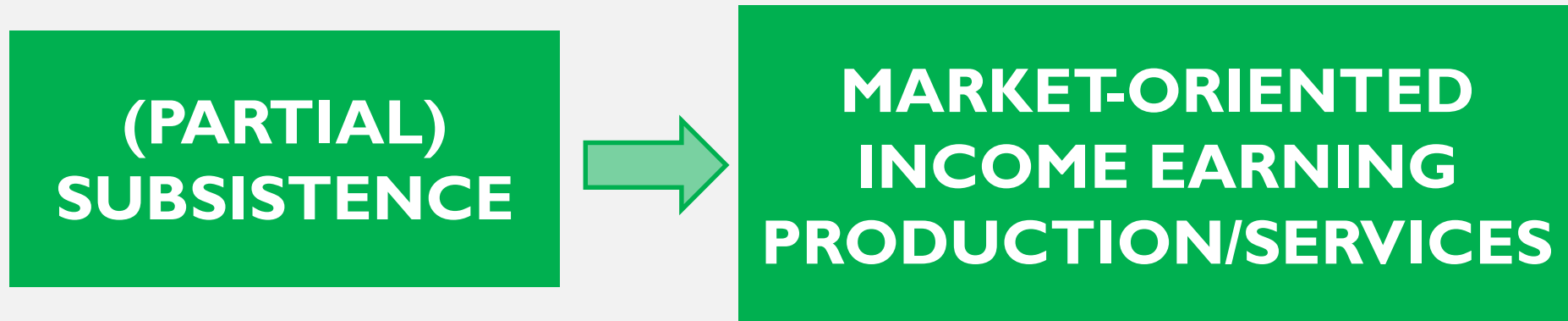
Digital skills needed to realize smart farming

Skill levels in various digital technologies for pig farming, Viet Nam (per cent)



Source: P. Huynh (2018), citing IPSARD and ILO.

To support people to move



**... require simultaneous support in numerous areas
(partnerships, collaboration, strategizing)**

Needs and opportunities to increase value additions and incomes in rural areas...

- **Agricultural development**
- **Rural employment in agricultural and non-agricultural activities**

But there are also institutional limitations to support this process

Gaining skills for more productive rural economy:

- Skills for more productive **agriculture**
- Skills for **self-employment**
- Skills for **wage employment**

Policies for inclusive rural transformation



Diversify rural economy



**Boost agricultural
productivity**



Innovate rural education



**Enhance rural
employment services**



Thank you