
TABLE 1: LABOUR FORCE DISTRIBUTION

	<u>1965</u>	<u>1973</u>	<u>1980</u>	<u>1985</u>
Agriculture	58.7	50.0	34.0	24.9
Industry	13.2	19.6	28.7	30.5
Services	28.1	30.4	37.3	44.6

2.4 Natural Resources and Energy

Agriculture, forestry and fishing are the major components of the GDP, contributing 14.5 per cent in 1985.

South Korea is a mountainous country, in which only 22 per cent of the land is cultivated, while a further 66 per cent is designated forest land. South Korea's farming is concentrated mainly in the basin areas of the country's principle rivers, the Han, the Nakdong and the Kum, and in the surrounding plains in the western and southern regions. Owing to its less severe climate and longer growing seasons (varying from 170 to 226 days), South Korea is more suited for farming than North Korea, particularly in rice cultivation. Agriculture is dealt with more extensively in Section 6 of this profile.

South Korea is a peninsular country with a long coastline, and fishing is important for part of the national diet, livelihood and exports. With a population of about 750,000 dependent on fishing in 150,000 households, South Korea's total catch (excluding aquatic plants) increased from 1.4 million tonnes in 1973 to 2.2 million tonnes in 1983.

Although two-thirds of the territory is forest land, and the country's moist climate is conducive to forest development, indiscriminate felling before 1945 depleted most of the original trees. Nation-wide campaigns for afforestation and soil conservation have successfully reversed the trend. Lumbering, mainly of coniferous trees, is limited to the mountains of Kangwon and Kyongsang provinces, and contributes only a fraction of domestic timber needs. South Korea's rise to become the world's principal exporter of non-coniferous (hardwood)