



Juridical Analysis of Sustainable Food Agricultural Land Protection Policy in Controlling Land Conversion and Its Impact on the Agribusiness Sector

Enda Maharani¹, Frans Tory Damara Pradipta², Zittra Akhmad Syahrullah Fadly³, Mari Lalang⁴

^{1,4} Fakultas Pertanian, Perikanan, dan Kelautan, Universitas Bangka Belitung

^{2,3} Fakultas Ilmu Sosial dan Ilmu Politik, Universitas Bangka Belitung

Correspondence: endamaharani6@gmail.com

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ABSTRACT

Agricultural land conversion has become a legal and economic challenge that affects food security and the sustainability of the agribusiness sector. This study aimed to analyze the juridical aspects of Sustainable Food Agricultural Land Protection (LP2B) policy in controlling land conversion and examining its impacts on agribusiness sustainability. This research used a normative juridical method with statutory and conceptual approaches. The study analyzed legal regulations, legal principles, and relevant academic literature related to agricultural land protection. The findings showed that LP2B policy had provided a legal framework through land designation, conversion control mechanisms, incentives, and institutional arrangements. However, the effectiveness of LP2B implementation was still influenced by regulatory synchronization, institutional capacity, and supervision mechanisms. The study also found that agricultural land protection had a significant relationship with agribusiness sustainability because land availability determined production continuity, farmers' economic stability, and agricultural development. This research emphasized that LP2B should be implemented as an integrated legal instrument connecting agrarian protection, spatial governance, and agricultural economic sustainability.



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INTRODUCTION

Agricultural land is one of the strategic agrarian resources that plays an important role in maintaining food security, economic stability, and sustainable development. The existence of agricultural land is not only related to food production activities but also concerns the sustainability of farmers' livelihoods and the development of the agribusiness sector. In the perspective of Indonesian agrarian law, land has a social function, meaning that its utilization must consider public interests and long-term sustainability. The increasing pressure on agricultural land due to development activities creates a legal challenge because land conversion may reduce productive agricultural areas and weaken the foundation of national food production. (Indonesia, 1960)

The conversion of agricultural land into non-agricultural functions has become a complex issue because it involves economic interests, spatial management, and legal protection of agricultural resources. Population growth, infrastructure expansion, and regional development have encouraged changes in land use patterns, causing productive agricultural areas to compete with other development needs. This condition shows that land conversion is not merely a physical change in space but also reflects a conflict between development orientation and agricultural sustainability. Spatial planning regulations require land utilization to be controlled through a planned mechanism so that the use of land remains aligned with environmental, social, and economic objectives. (Indonesia, 2007)

The government established the Sustainable Food Agricultural Land Protection (LP2B) policy through Law Number 41 of 2009 as a legal response to prevent uncontrolled agricultural land conversion. This policy provides a legal basis for determining agricultural areas that must be protected

and maintained as sustainable food production areas. LP2B reflects the state's role in managing agrarian resources through legal instruments that regulate land designation, protection mechanisms, and restrictions on land conversion. The existence of this regulation indicates that agricultural land protection is not only an administrative matter but also part of the state's responsibility in ensuring food availability and agrarian sustainability. (Indonesia, 2009)

The implementation of LP2B is supported by various regulations concerning land designation, conversion procedures, incentives, information systems, and financing mechanisms. These regulations are intended to strengthen the protection system by creating obligations for government institutions and providing support for farmers who maintain agricultural land. However, the existence of legal regulations does not always guarantee effective protection because implementation depends on supervision, institutional coordination, and consistency between spatial planning policies and development priorities. The gap between legal provisions and implementation practices becomes an important issue in assessing whether LP2B has been effective in controlling agricultural land conversion. (Indonesia, 2011)

Previous studies indicate that the implementation of agricultural land protection policies still faces various challenges at the regional level. Kurniawan and Windryanto explain that the implementation of Law Number 41 of 2009 is influenced by the ability of local governments to coordinate policies, conduct supervision, and ensure compliance with land protection regulations. Meanwhile, Pitaloka emphasizes that LP2B is closely related to spatial planning politics because agricultural land protection requires synchronization between agrarian regulations and regional spatial policies. These findings show that legal protection of agricultural land requires not only regulatory certainty but also a comprehensive policy approach. (Kurniawan & Windryanto, 2017) (Pitaloka, 2020)

The impact of agricultural land conversion is directly connected to the sustainability of the agribusiness sector because land functions as the main production factor in agricultural activities. Reduced agricultural land availability may affect production capacity, farmers' economic conditions, and the continuity of agricultural supply chains. Research on LP2B policy shows that incentive mechanisms and effective protection systems have an important role in supporting food security and agricultural sustainability. Based on these conditions, this study analyzes sustainable food agricultural land protection policies from a juridical perspective by examining the relationship between legal regulation, land conversion control, and its impact on the agribusiness sector. The contribution of this research lies in integrating legal analysis with agricultural economic sustainability. (Mokoginta et al., 2024)

RESEARCH METHODS

This research uses a normative juridical research method that focuses on examining legal norms, regulations, and principles related to sustainable food agricultural land protection policies. The juridical approach is conducted through a statutory approach (*statute approach*) by analyzing relevant legal provisions, including regulations on agrarian law, spatial planning, and Sustainable Food Agricultural Land Protection (LP2B). This research also uses a conceptual approach (*conceptual approach*) to examine the relationship between legal protection, land conversion control, and agricultural sustainability. The legal materials used in this study consist of primary legal materials in the form of legislation and secondary legal materials consisting of scientific journals, books, and other academic references relevant to the research topic. (Soekanto & Mamudji, 2019)

The analysis process is carried out qualitatively by interpreting legal materials to identify the effectiveness and limitations of LP2B policy in controlling agricultural land conversion. This research does not only examine the existence of legal regulations but also analyzes how legal policies function as instruments in protecting agricultural resources and supporting the sustainability of the agribusiness sector. The collected legal materials are analyzed systematically to understand the relationship between regulatory arrangements, implementation mechanisms, and the impacts of agricultural land conversion. Through this method, the research aims to provide a comprehensive juridical analysis of sustainable food agricultural land protection policies. (Marzuki, 2021)

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

1. Juridical Construction of Sustainable Food Agricultural Land Protection Policy in the Indonesian Agrarian Legal System

The protection of sustainable food agricultural land represents a form of state intervention through legal instruments to maintain a balance between development interests and the sustainability of agrarian resources. Land within the Indonesian agrarian legal system is not merely viewed as an economic asset but also as a resource that has a social function. This principle places land utilization within a broader public interest framework, where land management must consider social welfare, environmental sustainability, and the continuity of community livelihoods. Therefore, agricultural land protection cannot be separated from the state's responsibility to regulate and control land utilization to prevent excessive conversion that may threaten food availability. (Indonesia, 1960)

The existence of Sustainable Food Agricultural Land Protection (LP2B) through Law Number 41 of 2009 demonstrates a shift in the state's approach toward agricultural land management. Before the establishment of LP2B, agricultural land protection was generally implemented through spatial planning mechanisms, but these arrangements were not specifically designed to prevent the conversion of productive agricultural areas with strategic value. LP2B provides a more specific legal framework by establishing agricultural areas that must be maintained and protected from uncontrolled changes in function. This policy shows that agricultural land is recognized as a national resource that has a strategic role in supporting food security and agricultural sustainability. (Indonesia, 2009)

From the perspective of legal policy, LP2B does not only function as a restriction mechanism against land conversion but also as an instrument to create legal certainty in agricultural resource management. The regulation of land designation, conversion procedures, incentives, information systems, and financing mechanisms indicates that the protection policy is designed through a comprehensive legal framework. The state does not merely prohibit changes in land use but also provides supporting instruments for farmers and land managers so that maintaining agricultural functions becomes economically and socially feasible. This approach reflects that effective land protection requires a combination of legal control and policy support. (Indonesia, 2011)

The juridical construction of LP2B illustrates that agricultural land protection involves a relationship between agrarian law, spatial planning, and agricultural development policy. The regulation of land use cannot be separated from spatial governance because agricultural areas exist within a broader regional development structure. The challenge faced by LP2B implementation is the possibility of conflict between agricultural preservation interests and regional economic development priorities. Therefore, the effectiveness of LP2B depends on the ability of legal institutions to harmonize land protection policies with development planning at both national and regional levels. (Indonesia, 2007)

Furthermore, the existence of LP2B reflects that land protection should not be understood only as a matter of maintaining agricultural land area but also as an effort to protect the agricultural system as a whole. Agricultural land is closely connected with farmers, production processes, distribution networks, and the agribusiness sector. When productive agricultural land is converted, the impact is not limited to spatial changes but also affects the economic structure of agricultural communities. Therefore, legal protection of agricultural land has a wider dimension because it concerns the sustainability of agricultural activities and rural economic stability. (Mokoginta et al., 2024)

However, the availability of legal regulations does not automatically guarantee the effectiveness of agricultural land protection. The implementation of LP2B requires strong institutional capacity, consistent supervision, and coordination between government institutions responsible for land affairs and spatial planning. Previous research shows that the implementation of Law Number 41 of 2009 still faces obstacles related to policy coordination, monitoring mechanisms, and the consistency of local government actions in controlling land conversion. This condition demonstrates that the main challenge of LP2B is not only the formulation of legal norms but also the ability of the legal system to ensure compliance in practice. (Kurniawan & Windryanto, 2017)

Based on this analysis, the juridical construction of LP2B can be understood as a legal effort to transform agricultural land protection from a reactive policy into a preventive mechanism. The policy attempts to prevent the loss of productive agricultural resources before conversion occurs by establishing legal status, protection mechanisms, and institutional responsibilities. The author argues that the success of LP2B should not be measured only by the number of regulations produced but by the extent to which the legal framework is capable of controlling land conversion and maintaining the continuity of agribusiness activities. In this perspective, LP2B becomes an important legal instrument in balancing development needs with the obligation to protect agricultural sustainability.

2. Effectiveness of LP2B Policy in Controlling Agricultural Land Conversion

The effectiveness of Sustainable Food Agricultural Land Protection (LP2B) policy in controlling agricultural land conversion is strongly influenced by the relationship between legal regulation, institutional authority, and the implementation of spatial governance. Although LP2B provides a clear legal framework for protecting agricultural areas, land conversion remains a complex problem because it involves various interests, including economic development, investment activities, and regional expansion. The existence of legal norms must therefore be supported by effective governance mechanisms so that agricultural land protection does not only exist at the regulatory level but can be implemented in actual land management practices. (Indonesia, 2009)

Land conversion control requires a legal approach that understands land not only as an object of ownership but also as a resource with broader social functions. In this context, the effectiveness of LP2B depends on the ability of the state to regulate the relationship between individual land rights and public interests. Pradipta explains that agrarian governance in Indonesia often faces challenges related to the relationship between state authority, community interests, and recognition of rights over land resources. This perspective is relevant to LP2B because agricultural land protection requires a balance between state regulation and the interests of landowners and agricultural communities. (Pradipta, 2026)

The implementation of LP2B also reflects the broader issue of legal harmonization between sectoral regulations. Agricultural land protection cannot operate independently because it is connected with spatial planning policies, regional development regulations, and administrative decisions. Disharmony between regulations may create uncertainty in determining protected agricultural areas and provide opportunities for land conversion. Pradipta emphasizes that regulatory disharmony can become a significant obstacle in achieving legal certainty because overlapping norms may weaken the implementation of public policies. (Pradipta, 2026)

In practice, the control of agricultural land conversion requires stronger coordination between central and regional governments. Regional governments have an important role in establishing LP2B areas through spatial planning instruments and ensuring that development policies do not conflict with agricultural protection objectives. The challenge arises when economic development priorities receive greater attention than agricultural sustainability, causing protected areas to experience pressure from non-agricultural interests. This situation shows that LP2B implementation is not only a legal issue but also a matter of political commitment in managing agrarian resources. (Kurniawan & Windryanto, 2017)

The relationship between land protection policies and local authority is also important because land management often involves historical, social, and cultural dimensions. Pradipta highlights that the relationship between governance systems and local communities influences the effectiveness of legal policies, particularly when regulations interact with existing social structures. In the context of agricultural land protection, legal policies need to consider local realities so that protection mechanisms are not only imposed administratively but can also be accepted and implemented by communities. (Pradipta, 2025)

Based on this analysis, the effectiveness of LP2B in controlling land conversion depends not only on the strength of legal provisions but also on the consistency of implementation, regulatory synchronization, and the ability of institutions to manage competing interests. The author argues that LP2B should be viewed as a legal governance instrument that requires continuous evaluation rather than merely a prohibition against land conversion. A strong legal framework must be accompanied by effective supervision, incentives for farmers, and spatial policies that prioritize agricultural sustainability.

3. The Impact of Sustainable Food Agricultural Land Protection on the Sustainability of the Agribusiness Sector

The protection of Sustainable Food Agricultural Land (LP2B) has a significant relationship with the sustainability of the agribusiness sector because agricultural land functions as the main foundation of production activities. Agribusiness does not only depend on farming activities but also involves a broader system consisting of production, processing, distribution, and marketing processes. Therefore, the reduction of agricultural land due to conversion may create a chain effect that affects farmers' economic capacity, agricultural productivity, and the stability of food supply. In this context, LP2B policy has an important position because land protection becomes a legal mechanism to maintain

the continuity of agricultural activities and prevent the weakening of the agribusiness structure. (Mokoginta et al., 2024)

Land conversion has a direct impact on agricultural sustainability because productive land is a limited resource that cannot easily be replaced. When agricultural areas are transformed into non-agricultural functions, the consequences are not only related to the loss of production areas but also involve changes in the socio-economic conditions of farming communities. Farmers may experience reduced access to productive resources, decreased income opportunities, and changes in agricultural business patterns. Therefore, agricultural land protection should be understood as a policy that protects both land resources and the economic ecosystem built around agricultural activities. (Indonesia, 2009)

The relationship between LP2B and agribusiness sustainability also demonstrates that legal protection of agricultural land has an economic dimension. The state's intervention through LP2B is intended to ensure that agricultural land remains available for production activities while providing certainty for agricultural actors. However, protection policies require supporting instruments such as incentives, infrastructure development, and institutional support so that farmers have economic reasons to maintain agricultural land. Without adequate support, restrictions on land conversion may create pressure on farmers who face more attractive economic alternatives from non-agricultural land use. (Indonesia, 2012)

From the perspective of agrarian governance, agricultural land protection also relates to the relationship between state authority and community interests. Pradipta explains that land governance in Indonesia involves complex interactions between legal authority, administrative arrangements, and community interests. This perspective is relevant to LP2B because the success of agricultural protection depends on the ability of legal policies to accommodate both public interests and the realities of communities that manage land resources. The protection of agricultural land cannot only rely on state control but also requires social legitimacy from agricultural communities. (Pradipta, 2026)

Furthermore, the sustainability of agribusiness requires consistency between agricultural policies and regional development planning. Agricultural land cannot be protected effectively if spatial policies continue to provide opportunities for conversion in strategic agricultural areas. The disharmony between development policies and land protection regulations may reduce the effectiveness of LP2B implementation. This shows that the protection of agricultural land requires a comprehensive legal approach that connects land law, spatial planning, and economic development policies. (Pitaloka, 2020)

Based on the analysis above, the author argues that LP2B should not be positioned only as a legal instrument to prevent agricultural land conversion, but also as a strategy to strengthen the agricultural economic system. The success of LP2B must be measured through its ability to maintain productive land, support farmers' welfare, and ensure the continuity of agribusiness activities. Therefore, agricultural land protection requires a balance between legal restrictions and economic policies that encourage farmers to continue maintaining agricultural functions.

CONCLUSION

The juridical analysis of Sustainable Food Agricultural Land Protection (LP2B) policy shows that agricultural land protection in Indonesia is not merely a matter of regulating land use but also a legal strategy to maintain food security and agricultural sustainability. LP2B provides an important legal framework in controlling agricultural land conversion through land designation, conversion restrictions, incentive mechanisms, and institutional responsibilities. However, the effectiveness of this policy is still influenced by implementation challenges, including regulatory synchronization, supervision mechanisms, and consistency between spatial planning and development interests. The study finds that agricultural land conversion has broader impacts on the agribusiness sector because land functions as the main foundation of agricultural production and rural economic activities. Therefore, LP2B requires an integrated approach that combines legal certainty, effective governance, and economic support for farmers. This research contributes by emphasizing that sustainable agricultural land protection should be understood as a legal instrument that connects agrarian regulation with long-term agricultural economic sustainability.

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