

THE IMPLEMENTATION OF A SUSTAINABLE FOOD AND AGRICULTURAL LAND PROTECTION POLICY IN PRINGSEWU DISTRICT

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ABSTRACT

The development in Pringsewu District is currently being monitored at a rapid pace, with the function of rice field land being reactivated as a growing land. The increasing population and growing needs of the community present a significant threat to the continued existence of productive rice fields. Pringsewu District is an urban area where the majority of existing land has the potential to be transformed into agricultural land. This phenomenon presents an intriguing case study for examining the implementation of regional regulations in Pringsewu Regency, specifically Regulation Number 6 of 2015 regarding the sustainable protection of food farming land. The research method employs a descriptive qualitative approach, utilizing data collection techniques such as interviews, observations, and documentation. The implementation of Regional Regulation No. 6 of 2015 regarding the protection of sustainable food farming land has not been effectively carried out. This is due to a lack of public awareness concerning the significance of sustainable food agricultural land. Despite the challenges inherent in implementing Local Regulation No. 6 of 2015 on sustainable food farm protection, the Pringsewu district government has consistently endeavored to ensure that the development of Pringsewu regency is guided by Local Regulation No. 6 of 2015 on sustainable food agricultural land protection. This approach is designed to facilitate a harmonious relationship between development and the environment.

Keywords: food farming, implementation, regulation, sustainable.

INTRODUCTION

Indonesia is an agricultural country with a wealth of natural resources. Various sectors, including agriculture, mining, industry, and tourism, contribute to Indonesia's economic growth. These sectors are then developed and utilized comprehensively by the community. The agricultural sector plays a pivotal role in efforts to enhance community welfare. The availability of extensive agricultural land increases input, credit, infrastructure, and human empowerment for industries that create added value and efficiency for farmers.

Conversely, the objective of stimulating regional economic growth, as set forth by the government, poses a threat to the continued existence of agricultural land. Land designated for strategic agricultural use will be more appealing to investors and developers interested in regional development projects. This policy indirectly contributes to the land conversion phenomenon observed in numerous regions across Indonesia.

Pringsewu Regency, a recently established autonomous region, is not exempt from these challenges. It is incumbent upon Pringsewu Regency to facilitate a more rapid expansion of the regional economy. The Pringsewu Regency area is an urban center, serving as the economic and governmental hub of the region. Furthermore, Pringsewu is home to a considerable expanse of rice fields, which presents a significant opportunity to meet the region's food needs. However, the continued existence of these rice fields is

contingent upon the successful navigation of the impending changes to the area's land use. The conversion of agricultural land to non-agricultural land is a likely outcome, driven by the necessity to fulfill community needs and accommodate the anticipated growth of Pringsewu Regency.

A review of data from Pringsewu District revealed that 515.74 hectares of agricultural land in the Pringsewu Regency area was converted into residential areas (Budiawan, Pringsewu District Head, 2022). In accordance with the author's observations, the following data was obtained regarding the rate of conversion of rice fields in Pringsewu Regency:

Table 1. Area of Conversion of Rice Fields in Pringsewu Regency 2015-2019

No	Subdistrict	Total Area of Land Converted			
		Years (Ha)		Amount (Ha)	Percentage (%)
		2015 - 2017	2018-2019		
1	Adiluwih	0	0	0	0
2	Ambarawa	1,99	11,11	13,10	2,54
3	Banyumas	0	0	0	0
4	Pagelaran	20,43	5,72	26,14	5,09
5	Pardasuka	0	0	0	0
6	Gadingrejo	72,46	32,08	105,26	20,41
7	Pringsewu	153,306	156,086	309,392	59,99
8	Sukoharjo	22	39,84	61,84	11,99
Amount		270,186	244,386	515,732	100,02

Source: Sustainable Food Crop Land Database of Pringsewu Regency (2022)

Table 1 illustrates that there was no conversion of rice fields in the Adiluwih, Banyumas, and Pardasuka districts. In contrast, Ambarawa District exhibited the lowest rate of land conversion relative to other districts, with a total of 13.10 hectares. Subsequently, Pagelaran District reached 26.14 Ha, which was below Sukoharjo District at 61.84 Ha. The rate of rice field conversion in Gadingrejo District is higher than that of Sukoharjo District, with a total of 105.26 Ha converted. Pringsewu District has the highest rate of rice field conversion, with a total of 309.392 Ha converted. In the period between 2012 and 2014, the conversion of rice fields in Pringsewu Regency reached 515.732 Ha.

In order to maintain its status as a region within Lampung Province that is reliant on the agricultural sector, the Pringsewu Regency Government has enacted Pringsewu Regency Regional Regulation Number 6 of 2015 concerning the Protection of Sustainable Food Agricultural Land. This regulation will serve as a guiding principle or legal foundation for the formulation of policies pertaining to development, encompassing both physical and non-physical forms of growth. This represents an effort to regulate the increasing demand for land, which is being used for residential and economic activities, in order to address the complex spatial consequences of land use in response to the dynamics of population growth.

Pringsewu Regency Regional Regulation Number 6 of 2015 concerning Protection of Sustainable Food Crop Land has the objective of controlling the rate of conversion of agricultural land, with a particular focus on rice fields in Pringsewu Regency. Article 3 of this regional regulation has the following objectives: (1) the protection of sustainable food crop areas and land, (2) the assurance of the availability of sustainable food crop land, (3)

the realisation of food independence, resilience and sovereignty, (4) the protection of the ownership of food crop land owned by farmers, (5) the enhancement of the prosperity and welfare of farmers and the community, (6) the increase of protection and empowerment of farmers, (7) the increase of the provision of employment for a decent life, (8) the maintenance of ecological balance and (9) the realisation of agricultural revitalisation.

Despite its apparent efficacy, the Regional Regulation still exhibits shortcomings. Chief among these is the absence of clear regulatory guidance pertaining to the designation of agricultural land as a sustainable food-producing area within Pringsewu Regency. In practice, many residents, particularly those engaged in agricultural activities, lack familiarity with the nuances of the Regional Regulation on the protection of sustainable food-producing land. Consequently, there is a lack of clarity regarding the inclusion of their land within the stipulated regulatory boundaries.

The data indicate that land conversion in Pringsewu Regency remains uncontrolled. The reduction in the extent of rice fields in Pringsewu Regency, coupled with the community's responsiveness to the Regional Regulation, provides a clear indication of the effectiveness of the aforementioned policy. In accordance with the implementation theory proposed by Mazmanian and Sabatier in Mulyadi (2015), the perception of policy implementation can be influenced by three variables: 1) the characteristics of the problem (tractability of the problems), 2) the characteristics of policies and laws (ability of statutes on structure implementation), and 3) environmental variables (non-statutory variables).

This study aims to describe the process of implementing Regional Regulation of Pringsewu Regency Number 6 of 2015 concerning the protection of sustainable food agricultural land and analyze the obstacles encountered during the implementation of Regional Regulation of Pringsewu Regency Number 6 of 2015 concerning the protection of sustainable food agricultural land.

RESEARCH METHOD

This study employs a descriptive research design with a qualitative approach. The research location for this study is Pringsewu Regency. The researcher selected this location due to its status as an agricultural area that has recently undergone significant conversion for the construction of large-scale buildings, including residential and industrial developments (both small and large).

The data collected for this study included both primary and secondary sources. The primary data consisted of interviews, while the secondary data comprised newspaper articles, online sources, and references that guided the implementation of Pringsewu Regency Regional Regulation Policy Number 6 of 2015 concerning sustainable food and agricultural land protection.

The data analysis employed in this study is a qualitative analysis technique, specifically the process of organizing and interpreting data through the construction of logical sentences. The objective of data analysis is to categorize the data, which includes all information obtained from observations, interviews, documents, and photographs related to the implementation of Pringsewu Regency Regional Regulation Number 6 of 2015 concerning Sustainable Food Agricultural Land Protection. Once the field data has

been collected using the aforementioned data collection method, the researcher will process and analyse it using a descriptive-qualitative approach, eschewing the use of quantitative techniques. The data analysis in this study adheres to the principles set forth by Miles and Huberman.

RESULT AND DISCUSSION

In light of the findings presented in the preceding section, this study will now examine the research results in the context of the research focus that has been established, along with the data gathered during the course of the investigation. The following section will present a discussion of the implementation of Pringsewu Regency Regional Regulation Number 6 of 2015 concerning the protection of sustainable food agricultural land. This research focuses on the implementation of Pringsewu Regency Regional Regulation Number 6 of 2015 concerning the Protection of Sustainable Food Agricultural Land, as well as the obstacles encountered in its implementation. Accordingly, the researcher evaluated the efficacy of the policy in accordance with Mazmanian & Sabatier's framework, which considers three key variables: the characteristics of the problem (tractability of the problems), the characteristics of the policy/law (ability of the statute to structure implementation), and environmental variables (nonstatutory variables affecting implementation). The following constitutes a presentation related to the discussion of research on the implementation of Pringsewu Regency Regional Regulation Number 6 of 2015 concerning the protection of sustainable food agricultural land.

TRACTABILITY OF THE PROBLEMS

The following section will address the technical difficulty level of the problems concerned

As evidenced by the findings of the preceding sub-chapter, the technical complexity of the issues pertaining to the implementation of Pringsewu Regency Regional Regulation Number 6 of 2015 concerning the protection of sustainable food agricultural land remains a significant challenge. This is due to the ongoing conversion of land functions on sustainable food agricultural land.

As posited by Mazmanian & Sabatier (2015), the level of technical difficulty associated with the problems in question is determined by the manner in which they manifest. This can be classified as either a technically straightforward social problem or one that is technically challenging to resolve. For example, social problems that are included in the category of those that are relatively straightforward to resolve include a lack of human resources in an agency (such as a lack of teachers in a school). To illustrate, social problems that fall into the category of social problems that are technically difficult to solve include unemployment, poverty, and other such issues.

With regard to the technical complexity of the issue at hand, it is evident that there is still a dearth of financial resources to facilitate the implementation of the Regional Regulation on the Protection of Sustainable Food Agricultural Land. As stated in Regional Regulation Number 6 of 2015 concerning the Protection of Sustainable Food Agricultural Land, Article 3, the regulation aims to (1) protect sustainable food agricultural areas and land, (2) ensure the availability of sustainable food agricultural land, and (3) realize food independence, resilience, and sovereignty. (4) protect the ownership of food agricultural

land owned by farmers, (5) enhance the prosperity and welfare of farmers and the community, (6) augment the protection and empowerment of farmers, (7) augment the provision of employment for a decent life, (8) maintain ecological balance, and (9) facilitate agricultural revitalization.

The findings of the field research conducted by the researcher indicate that the objectives stated in the Regional Regulation have not been fully implemented in accordance with the intended specifications. The lack of funding represents a significant challenge for the government in achieving the policy objectives. The unfulfilled needs of farmers as outlined in the Regional Regulation have led to a situation in which farmers and landowners are unable to maintain their rice fields and instead choose to sell at a greater profit.

The level of diversity among the target group

In light of the findings presented in the preceding section, it is evident that the level of target group diversity, comprising farmers and agricultural land owners, remains a significant concern in the implementation of the Regional Regulation on the Protection of Food Agricultural Land. Despite the implementation of the aforementioned regulation, instances of land conversion continue to occur. From a socio-economic standpoint, farmers and landowners continue to rely on agricultural products and the land they possess. This prompts them to convert the land they own, either by selling it to investors, utilizing it for business purposes, or constructing a residence.

The findings of the researchers' fieldwork revealed that the conversion of agricultural land is a phenomenon that occurs in Pringsewu Regency. In light of these findings, it can be concluded that the Regional Regulation on the Protection of Sustainable Food Agricultural Land has not been implemented effectively due to a lack of knowledge and awareness among farmers and landowners regarding the importance of protecting agricultural land.

This pertains to the target group of policy makers, who may be considered either homogeneous or heterogeneous. A homogeneous community condition will facilitate the implementation of a program or policy, whereas a heterogeneous community condition will present greater challenges or pose more significant obstacles, as postulated by Mazmanian & Sabatier in Mulyadi (2015). This indicates that the condition of the community has a significant impact on the implementation of a program or policy. It would be more straightforward to implement a program or policy if the target group were homogeneous. Conversely, if the target group is diverse, it may be more challenging to implement. This is due to the fact that the level of comprehension exhibited by the target group varies considerably.

The Proportion Of The Target Group

The efficacy of a program or policy can be gauged by examining the target group. If the target population is the entire population, the program or policy will be relatively difficult to implement. Conversely, if the scope of the target group is not too large, the implementation process will be more straightforward. Accordingly, the implementation of a program or policy will be more straightforward when the target is a specific group of individuals or a limited portion of the overall population, as opposed to when the target

encompasses the entire population, as postulated by Mazmanian & Sabatier in Mulyadi (2015).

The objective of regional regulations on the protection of sustainable food and agricultural land is to provide guidance to farmers and landowners. The primary target groups are farmers and landowners, as they possess the requisite rights or authority to own their land. Consequently, farmers and landowners represent a sizable population, rendering it challenging to reach them all in a comprehensive manner. The domicile of farmers or landowners who are not situated in the same area as their agricultural land will present a greater challenge in the implementation process. Moreover, the degree of responsiveness exhibited by farmers and landowners towards the Regional Regulation varies considerably. The socio-economic conditions of farmers and landowners exert a significant influence on their behaviour and attitudes towards the policy in question.

The findings in the field indicate that Pringsewu Regency is one of the areas with a significant rice harvest. This implies that the number of farmers in Pringsewu Regency is commensurate with the extent of available land. The distribution of agricultural land and farmers in the Pringsewu Regency area affects the implementation of policies on the Regional Regulation on the Protection of Sustainable Food Agricultural Land, as not all farmers and landowners receive information and socialization regarding the Regional Regulation.

The scope of anticipated behavioral modifications

The research findings indicate that the implementation of the Regional Regulation on the Protection of Sustainable Food and Agricultural Land is anticipated to facilitate the maintenance of agricultural land in its current state, preventing any changes in its function. The indicators include the anticipated behavioral changes among farmers and landowners, which are designed to enhance their awareness of the significance of protecting agricultural land in order to maintain the viability of productive rice fields and ensure the availability of food commodities to meet nutritional needs.

Mazmanian and Sabatier (2015) posit that the implementation of a program or policy with an objective of providing knowledge is relatively more straightforward than one that seeks to alter attitudes and behaviors. The implementation of a policy or program is more straightforward when the objective is to disseminate knowledge. In contrast, programs designed to alter attitudes or behaviors tend to be considerably more challenging to implement.

In light of the findings in the field, the Pringsewu Regency Regional Regulation No. 6 of 2015 concerning the protection of sustainable food-producing agricultural land is expected to bring about changes in the lives of farmers. In other words, the regional regulation is not merely an informational document; it is also a means of conveying the significance of safeguarding agricultural land. However, the objective of this policy is also to modify the behavior and mindset of farmers and landowners with regard to the Regional Regulation on the protection of sustainable food agricultural land. By way of illustration, the policy enables farmers to concentrate their efforts on the advancement of the agricultural sector. The incentives offered by the Department of Agriculture are designed to encourage and motivate farmers. However, it is challenging for farmers and

landowners to accept this policy. Meeting their urgent needs will encourage them to convert their agricultural land. For instance, inherited agricultural land may be used as a residence for their children, given that they lack alternative land holdings.

THE CHARACTERISTICS OF POLICY OR LAW

The Clarity of the Policy Content

In light of the preceding subchapter's explication of research findings, indicators pertaining to the clarity of policy content elucidate the objectives and forms of policies. This allows for the identification of policies that are specifically oriented towards groups of farmers. The policy in question is a regional regulation whose objective is to safeguard productive land or sustainable pastureland so that it is not converted. In addition to issuing the Regional Regulation, the government provides incentives and rewards to farmers to ensure the desired implementation of the policy.

Mazmanian and Sabatier (2015) posit that a policy taken by policymakers must contain clear and consistent content. A policy with transparent and coherent content will facilitate its implementation and prevent distortion or deviation. This is because, in the event that a policy has already been formulated with clear and unambiguous content, the possibility of misinterpretation by the implementer can be avoided. Conversely, the potential for distortion or misunderstanding is increased in the absence of clear policy content. In the event that the contents of a policy remain ambiguous, the potential for distortion or misunderstanding is increased.

In regard to the transparency and comprehensiveness of the policy regarding the findings in the field, the implementation of Pringsewu Regency regional regulation No. 6 of 2015 concerning the protection of sustainable food agricultural land revealed that a considerable number of farmers still perceive this regulation as a standard practice. Once more, every policy is designed with specific objectives in mind. However, the attainment of these goals is not straightforward, as evidenced by the findings of this study. Despite the existence of well-crafted policies, numerous instances have been observed wherein the implementation process has not aligned with the desired outcomes. This condition is undoubtedly significantly influenced by the socio-economic objectives of the policy, particularly with regard to the farming community. The issue of land ownership, land certification, and the absolute rights of farmers and landowners to use their land as needed must be addressed. The farming community in Pringsewu Regency, the majority of whom are engaged in agricultural activities, also shares this sentiment.

what extent does the policy have academic support

The results of research conducted in the field indicate that Pringsewu Regency Regional Regulation No. 6 of 2015 concerning Sustainable Food Crop Land Protection has a theoretical basis. The Regional Regulation has theoretical support, including Law Number 41 of 2009 concerning Sustainable Food Crop Land Protection. This law aims to protect food crop areas and land sustainably, ensure the availability of sustainable food crop land, realize food independence, resilience, and protection, protect ownership of food crop land owned by farmers, improve the welfare and welfare of farmers and the community, increase farmer protection and empowerment, increase the provision of

employment for a decent life, maintain ecological balance, and realize agricultural revitalization.

The 2009 Law Number 41 concerning Sustainable Food Crop Land Protection is reinforced by the 2012 Government Regulation Number 30 concerning Financing for Sustainable Food Crop Land Protection, which has been delegated to the Regional Government to establish Regional Regulations for the optimal implementation of these provisions. Subsequently, the Regional Regulation of Pringsewu Regency Number 6 of 2015 concerning the Protection of Sustainable Food Crop Land was enacted with the objective of reducing the rate of land conversion in Pringsewu Regency.

In regard to the indicator of the extent to which a policy is theoretically supported, The presence of guidelines, such as those pertaining to the implementation of instructions and technical instructions, serves to elucidate the underlying policy itself. Theoretical policies are more effective because they have been tested. However, certain social environments require modifications and adaptations. The theoretical support provided to a rule or policy enhances its stability, as it has been subjected to testing. As Mazmanian & Sabatier (2015) assert, the context of policy-making encompasses social issues that, although seemingly homogeneous across regions, necessitate tailored approaches to align with local circumstances.

The financial resources allocated to policy

The findings of the researchers during field research indicate that, with regard to the indicator of the amount of financial resource allocation for the policy in the implementation of Pringsewu Regency Regional Regulation Number 6 of 2015 concerning Sustainable Food Agricultural Land Protection, there are sources of funds that have been budgeted. In this context, the regional government is responsible for ensuring the availability of financial resources to facilitate the implementation of the policy. Therefore, the financial resources allocated for this policy are derived from the Pringsewu Regency APBD. However, the lack of consistency in budgetary allocations for a given policy can complicate the implementation process. In order to facilitate the implementation of this regional regulation, it is necessary to ensure the availability of financial resources for the development of facilities and infrastructure, as well as for the provision of incentives.

Mazmanian & Sabatier (2015) asserted that financial resources are a critical factor in supporting the implementation of a policy. It is evident that the implementation of any program or policy necessitates the involvement of personnel to perform a range of functions, including administrative, technical, program monitoring, and resource management. These activities invariably entail the allocation of financial resources. The availability of financial resources is of paramount importance for the implementation of any program or policy.

The amount of financial resources allocated to a policy is a significant indicator of the ease with which it can be implemented. The availability of adequate financial resources is indicative of the likelihood of a policy's successful implementation. Conversely, the absence of sufficient financial resources may impede the policy's progress,

even if other factors are in place. It can be reasonably deduced, therefore, that financial support is a prerequisite for the successful implementation of a policy.

Linkage and Support between Various Implementing Institutions

The results of research on indicators of linkage and support between various implementing agencies demonstrate that these factors influence the level of success in implementation. The rationale behind the necessity for inter-institutional collaboration in the implementation of a policy is to ensure effective coordination and communication between the various implementing agencies. The implementation of a policy necessitates the involvement of various actors, each occupying a specific role, from planners to technical staff. These actors are interconnected, working in collaboration to achieve the policy objectives.

The aforementioned explanation demonstrates the extent of linkage and support between the various implementing institutions involved in the implementation of Pringsewu Regency Regional Regulation Number 6 of 2015 concerning Sustainable Food Agricultural Land Protection. In accordance with the findings obtained from the field research, it can be concluded that the implementation of the policy involves a number of implementing agencies, which are interconnected with each other. The interconnectivity and collaboration between the implementing agencies is exemplified by the enactment of policies by the Pringsewu Regency Regional Government in response to the Central Government regulations that mandate each region to formulate Regional Regulations for the optimization of sustainable food agricultural land protection.

The Regional Regulation was not initially presented in its final form; rather, it was adjusted to align with the specific conditions prevailing in the region. Pringsewu Regency is an agricultural area with the largest land area and rice harvest in Lampung Province. It is therefore imperative to safeguard agricultural land in order to ensure the resilience of productive land and food security, particularly in Pringsewu Regency. Subsequently, the Pringsewu Regency Regional Regulation Number 6 of 2015 concerning the Protection of Sustainable Food Agricultural Land was enacted, thereby conferring upon the Regional Government, through the Agriculture Service, the responsibility for its implementation. Furthermore, in order to oversee the implementation of the regional regulation, the regent of Pringsewu issued a directive concerning the conversion of agricultural land. This directive was distributed to the Pringsewu Regency BKPRD Team, the subdistrict heads throughout Pringsewu Regency, and the village heads/heads of villages throughout Pringsewu Regency, and it instructed them to: Any attempt to convert agricultural land to non-agricultural land must obtain a permit in accordance with applicable laws and regulations. Furthermore, guidance and control must be carried out to ensure that agricultural land, particularly productive rice fields, does not undergo a change of function. Finally, the optimal use of agricultural land, especially available rice fields, must be ensured in order to support the programme aimed at increasing production and thus supporting food security.

Clarity and Consistency of Existing Rules in the Implementing Agency

As evidenced by the findings of researchers in the field, this finding is associated with indicators of clarity and consistency of existing rules in the implementing agency. In

the implementation of Pringsewu Regency Regional Regulation Number 6 of 2015 concerning the protection of sustainable food agricultural land, there are binding rules between implementing agencies regarding the implementation of the policy.

In accordance with the viewpoint advanced by Mazmanian & Sabatier in Mulyadi (2015), it is imperative that the implementing agency or implementor of a policy be furnished with unambiguous directives and exhibited a tangible consistency, in order to obviate any ambiguity that might impede the implementation process. The minimization of failure in implementation can be achieved through the establishment of clarity in the rules and the implementation of real consistency within the implementing agency.

It is imperative that every program or policy be accompanied by a set of rules or guidelines that regulate the actions of the implementing agencies involved in its implementation. The objective of a rule that regulates the implementing agency is to regulate and bind them so that they are interconnected with each other. In the Regional Regulation of Pringsewu Regency Number 6 of 2015 concerning the protection of sustainable food agricultural land, it is explained that the role of the community is of great importance, extending from the planning and development stages through to research, supervision, farmer empowerment, and financing. In this context, the term "community" encompasses all parties involved in the implementation of this policy, including regional government officials, farmers, agencies, and the general public.

The Regional Regulation provides a comprehensive framework of guidelines and rules that serve as a reference point for the community in exercising their rights and participating in activities that align with their interests. Furthermore, in the event of misuse or deviation in the implementation process, sanctions have been established and are outlined in the Regional Regulation. To illustrate, in the event of a conversion of land designated for sustainable food production into built-up areas such as housing, commercial premises, or other developments that are not in the public interest and lack the requisite permits, the relevant authorities are entitled to pursue the matter. This is contingent upon the community's role in conducting supervision, which subsequently generates a report for submission to the relevant authorities. Following this, an investigation is conducted into the report, determining whether the allegations have merit and constitute a violation of the established regulations. In the event that a violation is substantiated, the perpetrators are subject to criminal sanctions and financial penalties.

The Degree of Commitment Exhibited by Officials to Policy Objectives

A robust level of commitment on the part of officials to the policy objectives in question represents a significant determinant of successful implementation. Such commitment must encompass the seriousness and sincerity of the officials in question, as this will facilitate the effective implementation of the policy in question and ensure its acceptance and obedience by the intended targets. One illustrative example is the existence of KKN (Korupsi, Kolusi, dan Nepotisme) in Indonesia, which was caused by the low level of commitment of officials to carry out their tasks and work or programs, as stated by Mazmanian & Sabatier in Mulyadi (2015).

The degree of commitment exhibited by the implementing officials is gauged based on the extent to which the implementing agencies themselves demonstrate a seriousness

of purpose in carrying out their duties with regard to the implementation of a policy or program. A serious commitment on the part of implementing officials will affect the level of success of policy implementation, with the result that the expected policy objectives are achieved. The findings from the field research indicate a lack of seriousness among officials in implementing the policy, as evidenced by their level of commitment to the policy objectives. One of the Griya Anugerah Pratama housing developments is situated in Pringsewu Regency, occupying land that was previously utilized for rice production. Following the issuance of Regional Regulation No. 6 of 2015, concerning the protection of sustainable food agricultural land, it was observed that the permit had been granted. This suggests that the commitment of the apparatus to the policy has not been optimized. Had socialization or strict action been immediately carried out following the issuance of the regional regulation, it is probable that the construction would not have occurred, regardless of the actions of the contractor or investor in obtaining the building permit.

Level of Access Reach of Outside Groups in Policy Participation

As previously explained, the research findings indicate that external groups have considerable scope for involvement in the implementation of policies. In the context of policy implementation, it is essential to recognize the necessity for a discernible opportunity for external groups to engage in the process. Such external groups are also a contributing factor to the success of a given policy. Mazmanian and Sabatier (2015) posit that a program offering extensive community involvement will garner greater support than one that excludes community participation in policy implementation. If the community is merely a passive observer of the program in their own residential area, they may experience feelings of isolation or alienation. In addition, those outside the policy-making process, such as the community, are also involved in the policy.

The question of the extent to which groups outside of policymakers may be involved and participate directly in the implementation of a policy is a significant one. In this case, the implementation of the Regional Regulation of Ringsewu Regency Number 6 of 2015 concerning the protection of sustainable food agricultural land has revealed issues pertaining to the involvement of external groups in the implementation of the Regulation. In light of these findings, it becomes evident that the implementation of this Regulation is overseen by a third party, namely the land developer.

In this case, the developer plays a significant role in the implementation of the regulation. It is of paramount importance that the developer's policy in building a structure adhere to the applicable rules and regulations. It would be preferable if the development were not carried out on productive rice fields, despite the extraordinary strategic location factor. A favorable response from developers will undoubtedly streamline the implementation of the policy. Conversely, an unfavorable response may impede the policy's ability to achieve its intended objectives.

NONSTATUTORY VARIABLES AFFECTING IMPLEMENTATION

Socio-Economic Conditions of Society and Level of Technological Progress

The research findings include insights into the indicators of public support for a policy. The implementation of Pringsewu Regency Regional Regulation Number 6 of 2015 concerning the protection of sustainable food and agricultural land has not elicited a

favorable response from the community, particularly farmers and landowners of agricultural land. This is evidenced by the dearth of public awareness regarding the policy. The ongoing conversion of rice fields demonstrates that public awareness of the significance of sustainable food agricultural land remains inadequate.

The findings from the field research indicate the socio-economic conditions of the community in relation to the implementation of Pringsewu Regency Regional Regulation Number 6 of 2015 concerning the protection of sustainable food agricultural land. The policy has thus far been unable to provide the public with the awareness required to maintain their agricultural land in a productive state. The social conditions of the farming community, the majority of whom rely on the proceeds from their agricultural products to meet their daily needs, remain unimproved. This prompts farmers and landowners to sell or convert their agricultural land in order to generate greater profits. Furthermore, the occurrence of crop failure would inevitably result in financial losses for farmers, potentially leading to an inability to recover their initial capital and meet the requirements for the subsequent harvest. This prompts them to sell their land, which will command a higher price than it would if they retained ownership.

The socio-economic conditions of society pertain to the collective well-being of a society, encompassing aspects such as education, economic stability, and social cohesion. This can be succinctly expressed as a society that is already open and modern, in contrast to one that is closed and traditional. As Mazmanian and Sabatier (2015) posit, a society that is already open will be more amenable to the implementation of renewal programs or policies than one that remains closed and traditional. Concurrently, technology serves as an instrumental aid in the implementation of a program or policy. The increasing modernization of technology will undoubtedly facilitate the implementation process.

The degree of technological advancement also influences the implementation of a policy. The socio-economic conditions of society provide the impetus for implementers to enhance their performance in order to achieve the desired outcomes. Nevertheless, the advent of new technologies is not always readily embraced by society at large. Technological progress can only be accepted by groups of people who can be defined as modern and possess an understanding of technology. To illustrate, in Pringsewu Regency, a considerable proportion of the elderly farming population remains unaware of the technological advancements that are currently emerging. Their knowledge is limited to activities such as tending to crops and harvesting rice.

In terms of the economy, the existence of Pringsewu Regency Regional Regulation Number 6 of 2015 concerning the protection of sustainable food agricultural land is anticipated to facilitate reciprocity between farmers and the Regional Government. A policy will be deemed to be operating in accordance with its stated objectives if, in the course of its implementation, due consideration is given to the environmental and social conditions of the target group. It is probable that low-income or community economies will result in a change of function for their agricultural land. For instance, some farmers may sell their rice fields in order to generate additional revenue, subsequently utilizing the proceeds to establish a more lucrative enterprise. Furthermore, the traditional social conditions of the community may also contribute to the phenomenon of land conversion.

The existence of inheritance rights to agricultural land ownership represents an absolute authority for landowners, and the government is therefore unable to exert control in this regard. Consequently, the implementation of the policy must consider the environmental and socioeconomic conditions of the community in question.

Public Support for a policy

Mazmanian and Sabateir (2015) posit that public support for a policy is contingent upon the extent to which the policy in question offers incentives or convenience to the public. It is of significant importance for a policy to gain public support. The public can assess the ease of access to a policy, which in turn facilitates their participation in the implementation of that policy. A policy is considered easily accessible if it is not overly burdensome in terms of administration. In this way, the policy aims to facilitate public access to the desired outcome.

Findings from the field indicate that Regional Regulation Number 6 of 2015, which concerns the protection of sustainable food-agricultural land, has received public support, particularly from the farming community. Nevertheless, the policy has not been well received by the community. This can be attributed to the absence of socialization and counseling efforts targeting the community, which could have enhanced their understanding of the significance of the Regulation. Moreover, the provision of incentives or benefits associated with a policy significantly impacts the public's receptivity to its implementation. The existence of beneficial policy results for the community will facilitate implementation. Conversely, if the policy is contrary to or incompatible with the conditions of the community, implementation will be challenging.

The Degree of Commitment and Skills of Apparatus and Implementors

The degree of commitment demonstrated by officials charged with implementing the policy is arguably the most crucial variable. It is imperative that implementing agency officials possess the requisite skills to prioritize objectives and subsequently actualize these priority objectives in accordance with the tenets espoused by Mazmanian & Sabatier in Mulyadi (2015). Those responsible for implementing policies must possess the requisite skills to prioritize objectives and subsequently enhance their realization. A high level of commitment indicates that officials are earnest in their pursuit of the policy objectives.

Table 2. Obstacles Faced in the Implementation of Pringsewu Regency Regional Regulation 6/2025

No	Internal Obstacles	External Obstacles
1.	The Regional Government has demonstrated a notable absence of socialization regarding Pringsewu Regency Regional Regulation Number 6 of 2015, which concerns the protection of sustainable food agricultural land.	The socio-cultural conditions of the local community, who have inherited agricultural land but have not utilized it in an optimal manner.
2.	The financial resources allocated from the APBD and external sources have proven inadequate to fully fund the implementation of the policy.	The ownership of agricultural land in Pringsewu Regency is not in the hands of the local population.
3.	The challenge of coordinating efforts across agencies in the context of problem-solving.	A notable deficiency exists in the awareness of farmers regarding the significance of safeguarding sustainable food-producing land.

Source: Observation (2024)

In implementing the Pringsewu Regency Regional Regulation number 6 of 2015 concerning the protection of sustainable food agricultural land, the government, farmers, and actors involved in implementing the policy have endeavored to do so in a serious and earnest manner. This is evidenced by the provision of incentives, with annual programs held to facilitate policy implementation. In light of the government's demonstrated commitment, it is evident that additional skills are necessary to ensure that community participation in the implementation of this policy yields the anticipated outcomes.

CONCLUSION

The results of the observations and data obtained allow us to conclude that: Firstly, the implementation of Pringsewu Regency Regional Regulation Number 6 of 2015 concerning Sustainable Food Crop Land Protection in Pringsewu Regency is currently still not being implemented in accordance with the theoretical principles of policy implementation. In light of the aforementioned characteristics of the problem, it can be concluded that land conversion in Pringsewu Regency persists, and that the importance of IMB is not duly acknowledged. Subsequently, the PERDA exhibits policy characteristics wherein the government, in its capacity as a public servant, has not fulfilled its obligations and responsibilities in a satisfactory manner, thereby preventing the attainment of the policy's objectives. Furthermore, the environmental variables, which are external to the policy, have also not been implemented correctly. In light of the community's level of involvement and responsiveness to the PERDA, Nevertheless, despite the lack of proper implementation, the Pringsewu Regency Government persists in pursuing regional development in Pringsewu Regency in accordance with the established regulations. Secondly, the Pringsewu Regency Government encounters several obstacles in implementing Pringsewu Regency Regional Regulation Number 6 of 2015 concerning Sustainable Food Crop Land Protection. These include a lack of socialization regarding the aforementioned regulation, insufficient funding from the APBD and external parties for policy implementation, and the need for more effective coordination between agencies in solving problems. The challenge lies in aligning the efforts of different agencies in addressing these issues. External factors include the socio-cultural context of the local community, who have inherited agricultural land but have not utilized it effectively, the fact that the ownership of these lands is not from the Pringsewu Regency area, and the limited awareness among the farming community about the significance of sustainable food crop land protection.

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