

Implementation of the Sustainable Food Land Protection Policy (LP2B) at the Food Security and Agriculture Service of Kubu Raya Regency

M Amri¹, Martoyo²

¹Postgraduate Program of Public Administration, Faculty of Social and Political Sciences, Tanjungpura University

²Department of Public Administration, Tanjungpura University

ABSTRACT: This thesis examines the implementation of the Sustainable Agricultural Land Protection Policy at the Food Security and Agriculture Office of Kubu Raya Regency. The core issue identified in this study was the suboptimal implementation of the Agricultural Extension Management Information System (known as Simluhtan), primarily due to the lack of training from authorized institutions and inadequate oversight of infrastructure development. The objective of this research is to describe and analyze the effectiveness in terms of goal attainment, timeliness, benefits, and outcomes of the Simluhtan system services, as well as the procurement mechanism for goods and services within the government that is oriented toward digital administrative technologies at the aforementioned office. The findings revealed that the achievement of Simluhtan's objectives by the Kubu Raya Regency Government through the Food Security and Agriculture Office remained suboptimal. This shortfall was attributed to the absence of clear performance indicators for farmer groups, the unavailability of essential data for policy formulation and farmer empowerment strategies, and the lack of timely implementation, which stemmed from insufficient support from key stakeholders, especially farmer groups (known as Poktan), who were expected to voluntarily provide accurate and up-to-date field data. Furthermore, the benefits of Simluhtan have not been fully realized by the farmer groups. This is evident in their limited utilization of information generated from the system, particularly in terms of sharing and applying such information through contemporary technological platforms among fellow agricultural extension officers. The overall outcomes of Simluhtan implementation in relation to the farmer groups in Kubu Raya Regency have yet to meet the expected targets. This was largely due to the ineffectiveness of District officers in fulfilling their administrative and supervisory roles.

KEYWORDS: The Sustainable food land Protection, The food Security, Agriculture Service.

INTRODUCTION

Following up on Law No. 41 of 2009, the Kubu Raya Regency Government has established Kubu Raya Regency Regulation No. 3 of 2023 concerning the Protection of Sustainable Food Agricultural Land (PLP2B). Its implementation is then elaborated in Kubu Raya Regency Regulation No. 7 of 2016 concerning the Kubu Raya Regency Spatial Plan (RTRW) for 2016–2036. This regulation stipulates that sustainable food agricultural land within the Regional Spatial Plan covers an area of at least 34,943.95 hectares.

To support the success of this program, certainty is needed regarding rice fields designated as sustainable food agricultural land, as stipulated in Kubu Raya Regent Decree No. 822/DKPP/2022 concerning the Area and Distribution of Sustainable Food Agricultural Land and Sustainable Food Agricultural Reserve Land, which designates LP2B areas across all sub-districts in Kubu Raya Regency. This area encompasses various types of agriculture, including food crops, horticulture, and livestock, with the aim of supporting regional and national food security. In addition to designating LP2B areas, this regulation also identifies reserve land that can be converted into LP2B in the future. This reserve land serves to maintain the availability of sustainable food crop land in the long term.

Furthermore, to find out the data on the list of areas and distribution and reserves of Sustainable Food Agricultural Land (LP2B) in Kubu Raya Regency which are spread across 7 (seven) sub-districts out of 9 (nine) sub-districts in Kubu Raya Regency, as can be seen at table 1.1 below.

Table 1.1 shows that the determination of the List of Areas and Distribution of Sustainable Food Agricultural Land (LP2B) of 10,692.42 hectares, LP2B Reserves of 4,684.90 hectares, and the target wetland area of 34,943.95 hectares in Kubu Raya Regency by 2024 is based on several strategic and technical considerations, namely: compliance with the Regional Spatial Plan (RTRW). These figures are the result of the integration of spatial data and spatial planning policies that ensure agricultural land protection in accordance with the zoning established in the Kubu Raya Regency RTRW.

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Implementation of the Mandate of Law and National Policy: The determination of the LP2B area follows the mandate of Law No. 41 of 2009 concerning the Protection of Sustainable Food Agricultural Land, which requires regions to designate protected agricultural land to support national food security. Based on mapping and verification of existing land, the LP2B and reserve areas are the results of field verification and spatial analysis of active and potential agricultural land, particularly productive rice fields and wetlands, in accordance with Kubu Raya Regent Decree No. 822/DKPP/2022 concerning the Area and

Distribution of Sustainable Food Crop Land and Sustainable Food Crop Reserve Land. The LP2B area is designated, emphasizing that to address long-term food security needs, this area is designed to meet long-term regional food production needs, taking into account population growth and development pressures.

Table 1.1: List of Area and Distribution of Sustainable Food Crop Land (LP2B) and Reserves (LP2B) in Kubu Regency in 2024

No	subdistrict	Area LP2B (Ha)	Area LCP2B (Ha)	Wet Land (Ha)
1	Batu Ampar	2.657,70	3.127,72	6.677,98
2	Kuala Mandor B	546,13	54,66	2.976,65
3	Kubu	2.906,26	47,70	2.801,71
4	Sunagi Kakap	2.222,53	1.277,60	2.940,43
5	Sungai Raya	780,15	158,56	2.894,75
6	Teluk Pakedai	881,45	18,67	5.847,32
7	Terentang	748,20	0	2.437,66
8	Sungai Ambawang	0	0	3.542,90
9	Rasau Jaya	0	0	4.824,55
		10.692,42	4.684,90	34.943,95

Source: Kantor DKPP Kab Kubu Raya, Februari 2025

The implementation of the LP2B policy in Kubu Raya Regency faces complex structural, technical, and social phenomena, such as: overlapping spatial planning, namely the continued inconsistency between the regional spatial plan (RTRW) and existing agricultural areas, thus making it difficult to determine LP2B boundaries legally and permanently. The pressure of land conversion, namely that agricultural land is often converted for housing, industrial, and infrastructure development, especially in economically strategic areas, without strong protection. Limited budget and Human Resources (HR), because the process of identification, mapping, verification, and monitoring of LP2B requires adequate budget and HR support, which is not yet fully available at the regional level, as well as minimal coordination between agencies, such as the lack of synergy between related agencies such as the Department of Agriculture, the Department of Public Works and Housing, the Regional Development Planning Agency (Bappeda), and the ATR/BPN, causes the LP2B policy to be less integrated.

LITERATURE REVIEW

The implementation of a policy is largely determined by the behavior of the implementing bureaucracy. This behavior is influenced by the policy environment. Meter and Horn (in Wibawa, 2011:19) formulated an abstraction that shows the relationship between various factors that influence the outcome or performance of a policy, by dividing it into six indicators, all of which must be carefully considered: 1. Competence and number of staff, 2. Span and degree of control, 3. Political support, 4. Organizational strength, 5. Degree of openness and freedom of communication, and, 6. Linkages with policymakers.

Given these six indicators, the final variable refers to the organization's access to influence policy implementation. All of these indicators shape the implementer's attitude toward the policy they are implementing and ultimately determine the level of policy performance. Implementation is defined as the range of actions taken by government and private individuals directed at achieving the goals set forth in a previous policy decision. A policy may be implemented effectively but fail to achieve substantial impact due to poorly formulated policies or other circumstances. Therefore, successful program implementation may be a necessary though not sufficient condition for achieving the final results.

According to Jones (2006:46), the policy implementation process is defined by three pillars: a. The Organizational Stage, which involves reorganizing resources, establishing units and methods to implement programs, and bureaucracy as a tool to achieve goals. b. The Interpretation Stage, which involves interpreting policies in the form of plans and directives, and understanding each stage of policy implementation. c. The Application/Enforcement Stage, which involves routine provisions and services, and activities related to policy implementation. Based on Jones's statement, the policy implementation process encompasses three main pillars:

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organization, interpretation, and application. During the organization stage, the Regional Government, through the Department of Food Security and Agriculture, establishes an implementing structure and establishes a legal basis in the form of a Regional Regulation as an operational foundation. The interpretation stage is carried out through policy socialization, land mapping, and technical policy adjustments to ensure understanding by implementers and the farming community.

METHOD

The determination of the type of research to be used is in accordance with the problem, nature and objectives of the research. In this study, the type of research used is descriptive research, which is a way of describing or depicting symptoms based on actual data and facts at the time the research takes place in the field as they are, in accordance with the objectives of the research, especially regarding the Implementation Process of the Sustainable Food Agricultural Land Protection Policy (LP2B) at the Food Security and Agriculture Service of Kubu Raya Regency. The technique for selecting research subjects to be used as data sources is a purposive technique, meaning that the determination of data sources is taken from people who know a lot about the problems in the problem to be researched.

Data analysis is conducted after data collection is complete. The data that emerges in qualitative research is in the form of words, not sequences of words. After obtaining the data obtained in this study, the next step is to process the collected data by analyzing, describing, and drawing conclusions. This study used qualitative data analysis techniques because the data obtained consists of statements. The data analysis process began by reviewing all available data from various sources, including interviews, observations recorded in field notes, official documents, drawings, photographs, and so on. In this study, to validate the data obtained in the field, the researcher used technical triangulation because this study used different data collection techniques to obtain data from the same source: observation, interviews, and documentation regarding the Implementation Process of the Sustainable Food Crop Land Protection Policy (LP2B) at the Kubu Raya Regency Food Security and Agriculture Office..

RESULT AND DISCUSSION

1. Organizational/Institutional Stage

Organizational or institutional development also includes the provision of human resources, the development of work mechanisms, and reporting and monitoring systems that support the sustainable implementation of the LP2B. To implement this, the Department of Food Security and Agriculture needs to establish a technical team or special LP2B task force and establish Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) to ensure clear direction and guidelines for policy implementation.

Sustainable Food Crop Land Protection (LP2B) is a strategic effort to ensure the availability of agricultural land to support national and regional food security. In the context of Kubu Raya Regency, which has extensive agricultural land but continues to experience pressure from land conversion, implementing the LP2B policy is an urgent need. The success of the LP2B policy implementation is determined not only by regulations and technical planning but also depends heavily on organizational and institutional strengthening. This organizational stage includes the establishment of an institutional structure, the assignment of roles and functions, and coordination between relevant agencies to ensure an effective and integrated implementation process.

In Kubu Raya Regency, the Department of Food Security and Agriculture plays a central role in implementing the LP2B policy. However, because this issue is cross-sectoral, strong collaboration is required between various agencies. such as the Regional Development Planning Agency (Bappeda), the Department of Public Works and Spatial Planning, the Department of Environment, and village and sub-district governments. Therefore, the organizational stage is a crucial foundation in ensuring that each actor has clear duties, responsibilities, and commitments to safeguard agricultural land from arbitrary conversion. With effective organization, it is hoped that the implementation of the LP2B policy in Kubu Raya Regency will not only be administratively sound but will also have a tangible impact in protecting productive land for agricultural use, ensuring the sustainability of the community and future generations.

To implement the Sustainable Food Crop Land Protection (LP2B) policy, the Kubu Raya Regency Food Security and Agriculture Office has established an institutional structure involving various internal work units and close coordination with relevant agencies such as the Regional Development Planning Agency (Bappeda), the Public Works and Spatial Planning Office, and the Environment Office. Furthermore, synergy has been established with sub-district and village governments, as well as farmer groups to strengthen policy implementation at the field level. Furthermore, the Kubu Raya Regency Food Security and Agriculture Office has established an LP2B Technical Team consisting of cross-sector representatives and expert staff. This team is tasked with coordinating the entire implementation process, from land mapping and outreach to monitoring and evaluation of the policy. The formation of this team demonstrates the Office's commitment to implementing LP2B in an integrated and effective manner to ensure the effective protection of agricultural land. The organization of LP2B policy implementation in Kubu Raya Regency demonstrates some good efforts, but it is not yet fully optimal. In terms of input, human resources, budget, data, and regulations are available as a basis for implementation, but there are still limitations in the number and capacity of human resources, budget constraints, and

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suboptimal digitization of agricultural land data. Regarding the process, the Department of Food Security and Agriculture has established coordination with various agencies and developed standard operating procedures (SOPs) for LP2B implementation.

2. Interpretation/Understanding Stage

The interpretation or understanding stage is a crucial element in the public policy implementation process. In the context of the Sustainable Agricultural Land Protection (LP2B) policy, successful implementation depends not only on the availability of regulations and resources, but also on how implementers and stakeholders understand the policy's intent, objectives, and content. A proper understanding of the LP2B policy is key to ensuring its implementation in the desired direction. If implementers at the agency and village levels do not fully understand the policy's contents and their respective responsibilities, implementation in the field will tend to be inconsistent and may even deviate from the primary objective of agricultural land protection.

In Kubu Raya Regency, although the LP2B policy is regulated by law and followed up by the Food Security and Agriculture Agency, observations and interviews reveal gaps in understanding among implementers, from the regency to the village level. This is evidenced by the continued uncontrolled land conversion, lack of reporting from villages, and ineffective policy dissemination to farmers. Therefore, it is important to examine how this policy interpretation process occurs at the implementing level and other stakeholders. A strong understanding will strengthen collective commitment and awareness to maintaining agricultural land sustainability, ensuring the LP2B policy can be optimally implemented.

Interpretation in the LP2B policy implementation process at the Kubu Raya Regency Food Security and Agriculture Agency. From an input perspective, resources in the form of LP2B policy regulations, technical documents, and staff have varying levels of understanding of the policy's content. The incoming data and information are sometimes incomplete or poorly disseminated. The policy interpretation process is internalized through meetings, outreach, and training conducted by the agency, but there are variations in interpretation between officials and field implementers due to the complexity of the regulations and the lack of clear technical guidance. This leads to multiple interpretations in understanding the LP2B implementation provisions. Meanwhile, as a result, the understanding and interpretation of the policy at the implementing level are still inconsistent, resulting in inconsistencies in implementation in the field. The expected output, namely appropriate and effective policy implementation, has not been fully achieved due to these differences in interpretation.

3. Application/Implementation Stage

The application or implementation stage is a crucial stage in the policy implementation cycle, where the formulated and understood policies must be implemented in practice. In the Sustainable Food Agricultural Land Protection (LP2B) policy, this stage encompasses the implementation of various programs and activities aimed at maintaining and preserving agricultural land's productive function and preventing its conversion to non-agricultural uses.

The importance of this application stage arises from various challenges in the field, such as pressure for land conversion due to development and population growth, as well as limited resources for policy monitoring and enforcement. Therefore, the implementation of the LP2B policy requires good coordination between relevant agencies, a common understanding, and an effective oversight mechanism to achieve land protection goals. Furthermore, the success of the application stage depends heavily on the active participation of various stakeholders, including local governments, agricultural extension workers, and farmers. Without proper and consistent implementation, the Sustainable Food Agricultural Land Protection (LP2B) policy will not have a significant impact on improving food security and agricultural land sustainability.

The application of the Sustainable Food Crop Land Protection (LP2B) policy at the Kubu Raya Regency Food Security and Agriculture Agency, based on input, is limited human resources, particularly the number and capacity of extension workers, which are still inadequate. Furthermore, budget allocation is considered suboptimal, as is the lack of facilities and infrastructure to support program implementation in the field. In the process or implementation stage, this arises from the uneven distribution of outreach and training activities for farmers, weak coordination between agencies, and low intensity of supervision. This has resulted in the ineffectiveness of technical assistance and field monitoring. Meanwhile, the output is seen in the less than optimal changes in farmer behavior in maintaining sustainable agricultural land. Land conversion continues to occur, and the results of implementation activities have not shown a significant impact in curbing the rate of agricultural land conversion.

CONCLUSIONS

From the research results and discussions outlined in Chapter V, several conclusions can be drawn, including:

1. The Organizational (Institutional) stage shows that institutionally, the Kubu Raya Regency Food Security and Agriculture Service has a fairly clear structure and division of tasks in implementing the LP2B. However, coordination between agencies and sectors is not optimal. Limited personnel, budget, and the lack of comprehensive Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) hinder institutional strengthening, which should support effective policy implementation.
2. The Interpretation (Understanding) stage shows that understanding of the LP2B policy remains diverse within the service and among farmers. Despite socialization and training, multiple interpretations persist in understanding the policy's content and

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objectives, especially in the field. This has resulted in a lack of collective awareness of the importance of agricultural land protection and a weak commitment to preventing land conversion.

3. The Application (Implementation) stage shows that the LP2B policy has begun to be implemented through several programs such as farmer mentoring, field supervision, and assistance interventions. However, many challenges remain, such as ongoing land conversion, limited oversight, and low levels of active farmer participation. Support for facilities, infrastructure, and law enforcement also need to be strengthened to ensure policies are implemented more effectively..

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