



Impact of Transfer of Agricultural Land Functions on Socio-Economic and Socio-Ecological Conditions in West Lombok Regency

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ABSTRACT

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Land conversion is basically a natural thing to happen, but in reality it becomes a problem, because it occurs on agricultural land that is still productive and its availability is still limited. The negative impact of shifting the function of paddy fields is not only a decrease in agricultural production, but also has an impact on the socio-economic conditions of the community and the environment of the area concerned. In certain cases, the conversion of paddy fields is unavoidable. This study aims to, 1) Identify the types of land transfer in West Lombok Regency, 2). Analyzing the impact of land conversion on socio-economic conditions in West Lombok Regency and 3) Analyzing the impact of land conversion on socio-ecological conditions in West Lombok Regency.

The results showed that the conversion of agricultural land is a change in the designation of agricultural land into non-agricultural land use. The potential land that has been widely converted in Labuapi, Gunungsari and Gerung sub-districts during the last five years (2010-2020) is paddy field and dry land which has changed its land use into housing, restaurants, shops and so on. There are different types of land conversion between the sample sub-districts/villages. Labuapi sub-district experienced large-scale agricultural land conversion, while Gunungsari and Gerung sub-districts experienced small agricultural land conversion. In general, the conversion of agricultural land in the sample sub-districts/villages has a negative impact on socio-economic aspects such as changes in land tenure, employment opportunities, changes in work patterns.

Keywords:

Socio-Economic and Socio-Ecological Impacts, Land conversion

PRELIMINARY

The act of changing the function of agricultural land has actually occurred since the existence of humans in the world (including the ancestors of the Indonesian nation) by recognizing various things (objects) that are desired in order to maintain and obtain satisfaction in their lives such as food, clothing, boards and so on. However, the need continues to increase in terms of variety, style, quantity, and quality along with the increase in the human population. Therefore, this need means that more agricultural land needs to be changed, both in terms of function, management and ownership. The policy on the conversion of agricultural land made by a

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country in general (including Indonesia) is intended primarily to regulate the availability of agricultural land so that it does not quickly narrow or remain stable. not easily/quickly damaged (still functioning well) due to the actions/utilization of the occupants, because essentially the conversion of agricultural land has occurred since there have been humans in the world who have a lot of desire to maintain their lives. So the conversion of agricultural land here can involve an action to optimize (improve the function and make effective) agricultural land into similar land and or change / replace the function of agricultural land into other types of land (non-agricultural land), some even directly / intentionally or not. can directly damage the condition of the land, besides being a source of tension/conflict both between individuals/groups/organizations and even between countries. (Linda Cristi Corolina *et al*, 2014)

Agricultural land is a strategic land and plays an important role in the national economy and the survival of the community, especially in providing employment, providing domestic food and maintaining environmental balance.

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Awareness of this role causes most people to still maintain their agricultural activities even though the country has become an industrial country. (Astrit *et al*, 2016).

The conversion of agricultural land is a crucial problem in Indonesia. The phenomenon of shifting the function of agricultural land to non-agriculture is a threat in many ways. If the transfer of land use continues uncontrollably, it will not only cause socio-economic problems, but also the environment and spatial planning of an area. (Yunastiti, *et al* 2016)

The consequence of this situation is that districts or areas close to the city will become the choice for housing, offices and businesses, because land prices are still cheap / low and there is still a lot of available land. This situation has become the target of developers (developers) as a location for making housing to increase housing area and also entrepreneurs to open businesses, thus giving rise to the phenomenon of land conversion. This situation creates new problems, because it shifts the function of productive agricultural land to non-agriculture, as a result, the average land ownership of farmers shrinks (Linda Cristi Corolina *et al*, 2014).

West Lombok Regency is one of 10 regencies/cities in the province of West Nusa Tenggara (NTB). Administratively, West Lombok Regency is divided into 10 sub-districts with an area of 1,053.92 Km² and a population in 2019 of 704,586 people with a density of 655 people / Km² (West Lombok in Figures, 2019). Most of the area of West Lombok Regency is used as a location for housing and business development, this is because there are still many productive lands that have changed functions and are also located near the City. The development of Mataram City has resulted in productive land in several sub-districts in West Lombok Regency changing functions for various needs. (Emi, *et al*. 2019).

The area of agricultural land in West Lombok Regency is 17,326 hectares including rainfed agricultural land. Based on data from 2015 to 2019, the reduction (depreciation) in the amount of agricultural land was 1.046 percent (Department of Agriculture and Plantation of West Lombok Regency, 2019). The negative impact of the conversion of paddy fields not only has an impact on decreasing agricultural production, it can also affect the socio-economic conditions of the community, damage to the environment/ecology and irregular spatial planning, environmental degradation (landslides, erosion and sedimentation) in the area. In certain cases, land conversion is unavoidable. But it will cause various impacts including Social, Economic and Ecological.

Formulation of the problem

Based on the description of the background, the following problems can be formulated:

1. What are the types of land use change that occur in West Lombok Regency?

2. What is the impact of land conversion on the socio-economic conditions of households in West Lombok Regency
3. What is the impact of land conversion on the socio-ecological conditions of the area undergoing land conversion in West Lombok Regency.

Research purposes

This research aims to:

- 1). Analyze how the types of land use change occur
- 2). Analyzing the impact of land conversion on the socio-economic conditions of households in West Lombok Regency
- 3). Analyzing the impact of the conversion of agricultural land on the socio-ecological conditions of the area undergoing land conversion in West Lombok Regency

LITERATURE REVIEW

Land Use Change (Land Conversion)

Changes in land function or shifts in land function are land that has experienced a change in land use, such as agriculture (mixed gardens to livestock) caused by changes in land use patterns, other factors that influence are facilities and infrastructure for regional development. (Nana Apryana 2011 in Elizabeth Anta)

Changes in land use are land that has undergone a change in function, both from agriculture to non-agriculture. In general, land problems in Indonesia, namely:

1. There is a decline in productivity that is not accompanied by land conversion efforts.
2. The occurrence of a decline in land productivity as a result of use that is not in accordance with capabilities.
3. The urgency of relatively fertile agricultural land by types of non-agricultural land uses in urban areas.

The Process of Change in the Function of Rice Fields

According to Pakpahan *et al*. (1993), the conversion of paddy fields to non-rice fields can occur directly or indirectly. Direct conversion occurs as a result of the land owner's decision to convert their rice fields to other uses such as for industry, housing, facilities and infrastructure or dry land agriculture. This type of conversion is driven by economic motives, where land use after being converted has a higher land rent than land use for rice fields.

Factors Affecting Land Conversion

According to research conducted by Ilham, et al (2003) in Linda Cristi et al 2016) it is known that the factors causing the transfer of functions from the external and internal sides of farmers, namely economic pressure during the economic crisis. Wicaksono (2007) said that other factors causing the conversion of agricultural land are mainly determined by: a). The low value of land rent (land rent); paddy fields located around the development center

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compared to the rental value of land for residential and industrial purposes. b). Weak function of control and enforcement of regulations by related institutions. c). The increasingly prominent short-term goal is to increase local revenue (PAD) without considering the sustainability of natural resources in the era of autonomy.

The factors that have the most influence on land use can be listed sequentially, namely institutional/legal factors, physical factors, economic factors and population factors.

Socio-economic factors will become more important when determining the optimum land use. These socio-economic factors include the location of the land in relation to the location of markets, transportation, settlements and other human activities. In addition, government policy is also one of the important factors that need to be considered in determining land use.

Type of Land Function Transfer

Soemaryanto, *et.al.* (2011) explained that the pattern of land use transfer can be viewed from several aspects. First, according to the actors of land conversion, they are divided into two, namely:

- 1) Transfer of function directly by the owner of the land concerned and
- 2) Transfer of land functions that begins with the transfer of control. The pattern of land conversion that is reviewed according to the process is divided into two, namely gradual and instantaneous. Based on the main factors of land conversion, actors, users and the process, (Sihaloho 2004, in Astri Lestari et al, 2011) distinguishes land conversion into seven patterns or typologies. The seven patterns include: 1) Gradual Conversion-Sporadic Pattern; 2) Systematic Conversion with "enclave" pattern; 3) Land Conversion as a Response to Growth 4) Conversion caused by Social Problems 5) "No Burden" Conversion; 6) Agricultural Adaptation Conversion; and 7) Multi-Shape or No Shape/Pattern Conversion

Impact of Agricultural Land Transfer

The conversion of paddy fields to non-agricultural uses can have an impact on decreasing agricultural production, and will have an impact on a wider dimension which is related to aspects of changes in the economic, social, cultural, and political orientation of the community. According to Firman (2005) in Bagus Cahyo JP, (2017), that the land conversion that occurs has both direct and indirect impacts. The direct impacts caused by land conversion are in the form of loss of fertile agricultural land, loss of investment in irrigation infrastructure, damage to natural landscapes, and environmental problems. Infrastructure investment is one of the main prerequisites for achieving high and sustainable economic growth.

Environmental problems can occur through negative aspects of human activities on the environment such as changing the function of part or all of the land area from its original function (as planned) to other functions which have a negative impact (problem) on the environment and the potential of the land itself (Utomo *et al*, 1992).). Then the indirect impact is in the form of population inflation from urban areas to suburban areas.

Socio-Economic Impact

The conversion of agricultural land has a positive impact on the non-agricultural sector, such as the availability of infrastructure, ongoing development and higher income than the agricultural sector. This causes farmers to switch professions to the non-agricultural sector so that their standard of living is met (Main, 2006, in Astri Lestari 2011). Coupled with the decline in agricultural production, farmers are increasingly moving away from the agricultural sector. Saefulhakim and Nasution (1995) as quoted by Akib (2002) state that the important thing to note is that in fact many local people (original landowners and farm laborers) cannot enjoy job opportunities and income from new economic activities. Beneficiaries are generally immigrants. This is due to the gap in demand and supply of labor as well as because they are unable to compete with newcomers. (Astri Lestari *et al*, 2011)

Socio-Ecological Impact

From an ecological point of view, land conversion can have an impact on disrupting the resilience of the carrying capacity of the environment which, if carried out continuously without any control, can cause environmental degradation phenomena, such as landslides, erosion, decreased land cover (vegetation), and sedimentation. This can be seen from the various natural disasters that have occurred in Indonesia recently. For example, the occurrence of floods in the Bima and Sumbawa areas in 2020 is a natural disaster due to natural and human factors (anthropogenetic).

Environmental Impact Environmental impacts that occur can be positive, namely protecting the environment, or negative, such as damaging the environment. One of the factors that determine the positive or negative impacts that occur on the environment is influenced by cooperation between local communities around the land conversion area, the local village government and other parties in preserving the nature around the tourist area..

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

Research methods

This research uses a quantitative approach which is supported by a qualitative approach. The quantitative approach is used to determine the socio-economic conditions of each household that is the sample of the study, while the qualitative approach is used to see the process of changing land functions as revealed from the results of quantitative

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research. The qualitative approach is carried out through case studies, observations and in-depth interviews (Indept Interview) and Focus Group Discussions (FGD) with various related parties.

Data and Data Sources

In this study using primary data and secondary data. Primary data were obtained directly from respondents and FGDs, while secondary data were obtained from relevant agencies and documents related to this research.

Population and Respondents

The population in this study were all residents who lived in 3 sample locations/subdistricts, Labuapi, Gunungsari and Gerung sub-districts. From the 3 sub-districts, 2 villages will be taken each whose land has been converted. So there are 6 villages that were chosen, because many of their lands have changed functions. Respondent's Household Selection (RT) was determined through cluster sampling technique (Singarimbun, 1989). Respondents from each village were taken 10 RT which were expected to be representative to obtain information related to the purpose of this study. The total number of respondents is 60 RT.

Data Analysis Techniques

Primary data is processed and presented in the form of frequency tables and cross tables to see the interrelationships of the socio-economic and socio-ecological impacts of land conversion for the people of West Lombok Regency. The primary data were then analyzed according to the research objectives. Meanwhile, for the qualitative approach, the triangulation method was used to provide reinforcement from the data obtained through questionnaires with Indept Interview, FGD and observation. The combined data is processed and analyzed by presenting it in the form of narrative text, matrix, or chart, then conclusions are drawn from all the data that has been processed.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Physical Condition of the Area and Land Use

a. Altitude Above Sea Level

West Lombok Regency has an average area above sea level between 1 - 155 above sea level. The lowest Batulayar District is 1 (one) meter above sea level and the highest is Narmada District with 156 meters above sea level.

b. Land Use

The increase in various human activities resulted in the use of land in cities and villages will continue to change along with the development and progress of the times. This also happened in West Lombok Regency which experienced changes in land use from 2012 – 2018 caused by the development process. In West Lombok Regency, land use is increasing from year to year, or productive land is decreasing.

The development of land transfer in West Lombok Regency based on the type of transition, among others, buying and selling land is a type of transition that is widely and widely carried out by the community. In 2012 the area was 12,679,741 ha, continuing to decline from year to year, so that in 2018 it became 2,449,809 ha. Lots of land transfers in 2012 because at that time, Lombok International Airport (LIA) had started operating and the community was aware of the plan to open a new road / Bay Pass LIA, so they bought land in large quantities. Most of the buying and selling is done between the community and developers / carriers for housing, the community and the government for offices and other public facilities, as well as between the community and the world for industry, warehouses or shop houses.

The lowest type of land transfer is for exchange (Ruslag / exchange bolster). For five years, there have been fluctuations, in 2012 land transfers were exchanged for an area of 3,788 hectares, while in 2017 exchange activities covered an area of 3,542 hectares and in 2018 an area of 7,318 hectares. From the data we can see that the transfer of land for buying and selling activities every year is more than the transfer for other activities.

DISCUSSION

In this discussion, will be described about matters related to the research objectives. The first objective is, What are the types of land conversion that occur in West Lombok Regency,

1. Types of Land Conversion

The types of land conversion were determined based on the results of observations and interviews with informants in the sample villages and referring to the results of research conducted by Sihalo (2004) and Astrit *et al* (2016). From the results of these observations and interviews, three perspectives (dimensions) of land conversion that occurred in this area were obtained, namely:

a. Dimensions of the area

Labuapi Subdistrict, large-scale land conversion activities to build houses and shop houses, has become a common phenomenon because this subdistrict has experienced more open land conversion compared to other subdistricts in West Lombok Regency. Labuapi District, located on the outskirts of the city and directly adjacent to the city of Mataram. Agricultural land in this region is getting less and less and has resulted in changes in various aspects. From the data and the results of interviews with the sub-district and village parties, information was obtained that a number of respondents who converted agricultural land were destined for non-agricultural purposes such as houses, shop houses and offices.

b. Speed Level Dimension

This type of conversion is a stretch of converted land by

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looking at the speed at which land use changes occur in the area. In general, the phenomenon of land conversion in Labuapi District accelerated in the range of 2010 and until now the land conversion has been increasing.

In 2010 until now, land conversion in Gerung and Gunungsari sub-districts is not as fast as in Labuapi sub-district, because Labuapi sub-district has easy access to roads and economic facilities. This has resulted in less and less agricultural land in Labuapi District, while land use change activities in Gerung and Gunungsari Districts are progressing slowly because currently there is still a lot of agricultural land that can be utilized by local households. As in the previous description which explains that there is a shift in land conversion activities to areas where there is still a lot of land, Gerung and Labuapi Districts can become targets for further land conversion activities, which causes agricultural land to take longer to decrease, eventually the condition will be the same as in Labuapi District.

c. Dimensions of Conversion Party

The need for housing and economic urgency for local residents as well as the desire to invest for residents outside the village (capital owners/investors) are among the factors that encourage land conversion.

- Local people

The population density in Labuapi District is increasing every year due to the increase in the number of local residents or because the number of migration of residents is getting bigger so that many residents are converting land on productive land to be used as residences / settlements. Based on the results of research on 20 household respondents in Labuapi District, in Terong Tawa and Parampuan villages (sample villages) there are 10 (ten) households (16.67 percent) who convert agricultural land into residences. One of the cases of changing the designation of agricultural land into a place to live is the case that occurred in the family of Mr. Halimun. Actually, there is no intention to convert the land, but because the developer / developer wants to buy it at a good price and will immediately build a house in the complex. Mr. Halimun has no regrets after his land was converted, because according to him, if the land is not converted into a residence, maybe he and his family do not have a house at this time. The description above shows that the need for housing is one of the drivers of the conversion of agricultural land.

- Residents Outside the Village (Capital Owners/Investors)

Labuapi District is a suburban area that is the target of capital owners (developers and developers) who come from outside the area as well as many capital owners who invest in land. Based on the results of research on 60 respondents who are engaged in agriculture in 3 sample sub-districts, there are households that convert agricultural land into non-agricultural land allocations such as shop houses as many as

34 respondents (57.14 percent) and warehouses 26 respondents 42.85 percent)

Capital owners who use land in the sample sub-districts sometimes provide opportunities for local residents to work in their place of business, so that this provides benefits for local residents.

2. Socio-Economic Impact of Agricultural Land Conversion

The phenomenon of agricultural land conversion changes the socio-economic life of households in West Lombok Regency, especially in the sample sub-districts and villages in this study. The impacts of these land conversion activities include changes in the agrarian structure, changes in job opportunities both in the agricultural sector and outside the agricultural sector, changes in work patterns, income structure, housing conditions and relationships between residents. There are differences in the impact received by households in areas close to roads and households in areas far from roads.

Agrarian Structure

a. Land Tenure Change

In this study, agricultural land tenure is categorized into five categories, namely landless (tunakisma), intercropping, profit sharing, rent and ownership. During the last five years (2015-2020) there has been a transfer of land tenure in three (3) sample sub-districts which has implications for changes in the degree of land tenure of local households.

The results show that there has been an increase in households becoming homeless and there has been a decrease in the degree of land tenure from owner to tenant, owner to homeless person and profit sharing to homeless. Therefore, a decrease in the degree of land tenure has a relationship with land conversion where the higher the conversion rate, the greater the possibility of a decrease in the degree of land tenure. In general, it can be concluded that land conversion in Labuapi, Gerung and Gunungsari sub-districts has a negative impact on local household land tenure.

b. Changes in Land Area Control

The occurrence of changes in the degree of land tenure is related to how much agricultural land is controlled by households and how changes occur from a decrease in the degree of land tenure. Changes in land area in this study were categorized into five, including non-existent land (0 hectares), narrow land (0.01 hectares – 0.24 hectares), medium (0.25 hectares – 0.49 hectares), large areas (0.50 hectares - 0.74 hectares) and very large land (more than 0.75 hectares).

1. Perception of Job Opportunities

The interest of the citizens of the capital to invest in houses, land and the incessant development efforts carried out by the government have resulted in changes in various

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aspects, including job opportunities.

The results showed that there were differences in employment opportunities in the agricultural sector between the sample sub-districts, where job opportunities in Gunungsari and Gerung sub-districts were greater than in Labuapi sub-district. This is because the location of Labuapi District is traversed by BayPass BIL, close to the center of government and the speed of conversion tends to be fast, the amount of agricultural land is very small and most of it has been converted into buildings so that employment opportunities in the agricultural sector are lower, and job opportunities in the non-agricultural sector increased.

2. Work Pattern

The pattern of work changes along with changes in job opportunities in the sample sub-districts. Most of the local households make a living outside of agriculture. Most of the land is owned by residents outside the village so that local households have difficulty entering the agricultural sector, even if there is agricultural land, these households only act as sharecroppers or farm laborers.

3. Income Structure

One of the reasons for the change in the pattern of household work in the three (3) sample sub-districts, most of which switched to non-agricultural sector work is the desire of households to gain more economic benefits from the non-agricultural sector due to the assumption that income from the non-agricultural sector is more elastic⁵. The income structure in this study is categorized into five, namely: very low (Rp. 0), low (<12,000,000), moderate (Rp.12,000,000 x <Rp. 36,000,000), high (Rp. 36,000,000 x < IDR 60,000,000) and very high (\geq IDR 60,000,000). Respondents' income data was collected by detailing the income per day or per month or in the last one year, both for households whose livelihoods are in the non-agricultural or agricultural sectors or also have a double income pattern.

4. Living Conditions

The condition of residence in this study is seen based on the status of residence mastery, the physical condition of the place of residence and the number of electronic devices owned by one family in their residence. In general, the Labuapi, Gunungsari and Gerung sub-districts have on average 40 households (66.67 percent) private residences, there are 11 households that live with their relatives (18.33), while there are also 9 households are still renting a house (15 percent).

The average living conditions of households in Labuapi, Gunungsari and Gerung sub-districts are in the proper category, namely walls, cement/ceramic mats, and adequate capacity for all family members. Furthermore, for the ownership of electronic equipment, the average household in the sample sub-district has five to eight electronic units.

The relationship between land tenure status and land conversion activities can be seen from the higher the number of residences, the greater the possibility of land conversion in this village. Based on data regarding the status of residence tenure, most of the residents have their own place of residence which used to be productive land and then converted into a place to live.

5. Interaction Between Citizens

The interaction that exists between residents in the three (3) sample sub-districts currently (2021) is still running normally. The relationships that exist between residents today tend to have high kinship ties. This is due to the high intensity of residents communicating with each other, due to the close proximity of residences and most of the residents' activities are spent at home, especially housewives. It's just that the relationship with residents who live in the complex / settlement has a slight gap, tends to be individual. because they are mostly outsiders (other areas), are busy working (afternoon/evening returning home) and live in a complex with a security guard post, so that the native villagers are somewhat reluctant to enter the housing environment, unless there is a specific need.

3. Socio-Ecological Impact of Land Conversion

Conversion of agricultural land in the Districts of Labuapi, Gunungsari and Gerung occurs as a logical consequence of development developments that lead to the reduction of productive lands, especially agricultural land. Agricultural land actually provides benefits to the surrounding environment because it maintains the integrity of the land. However, the phenomenon of land conversion which is increasing and difficult to overcome has caused various socio-ecological impacts in the sample sub-districts. The socio-ecological impacts of land conversion include the impact on household access to water, the way residents dispose of household waste, and most importantly the occurrence of environmental degradation such as flooding. There is a relationship between the socio-ecological impact of land conversion and the type of land conversion that occurred in the three (3) sample sub-districts and villages,

a. Household Access to Water Resources

Household access to water resources can be said to be easy and affordable for all because most residents use the water provided by the government (PDAM) as a means to meet their water needs.

The water used by the sample sub-district/village households so far has been of good quality because most of the households obtain water directly from the PDAM. This good quality refers to the condition of water that is tasteless, odorless and colorless.

b. How Residents Dispose of Household Waste

The conversion of agricultural land into non-agricultural

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land allocations between the sample sub-districts/villages experienced differences. Land conversion in Labuapi District, Terong Tawah Village took place on a large scale because of its location close to the city, resulting in an increase in the number of buildings, for example housing complexes. As in the previous description regarding changes in work patterns, residents of Labuapi District on average make a living in the non-agricultural sector. This is different from the conditions in Gerung District where the conversion of agricultural land is still relatively low, so that in this village is still rich in agricultural land, so that the local residents on average make a living in agriculture. This difference affects the attitude of residents towards the environment, one of which is the habit of local residents in managing household waste.

On average, 45 households (75 percent) of household in the local sample sub-district/village use waste as organic fertilizer (compost), because most households work in the agricultural sector so that by utilizing household waste it can provide benefits in agriculture. In addition to being used as fertilizer, some other households choose to burn the waste generated from their household so that the environment is protected. Based on the description above, it can be concluded that land conversion has an indirect impact on the habits of households in the sample area in managing household waste.

c. Environmental Degradation

The change in the designation of agricultural land to non-agricultural land use in the sample sub-districts / villages causes this area to become densely populated with settlements, resulting in a decrease in the carrying capacity of the environment which in turn causes floods and landslides.

The main cause of this flood and landslide disaster is spatial planning. Spatial planning becomes a problem when the conversion of agricultural land or productive land to non-agricultural uses is not in accordance with established regulations.

CONCLUSIONS

1. The potential land that has been converted a lot in Labuapi, Gunungsari and Gerung sub-districts for the last five years (2010-2020) is paddy fields and dry land that has changed its land use into houses, restaurants, shops, and so on.
2. There are different types of land conversion between the sample sub-districts / sample villages / sample villages. Labuapi sub-district experienced large-scale agricultural land conversion, while Gunungsari and Gerung sub-districts experienced small agricultural land conversion
3. In general, the conversion of agricultural land in the sample sub-districts/villages has a negative impact on socio-economic aspects such as changes in land tenure, employment opportunities, changes in work patterns,

living conditions, and relationships between residents (conflict), and has a negative impact on socio-economic aspects. Ecological aspects such as access to water resources, the way residents dispose of household waste which is an indirect impact due to conversion of agricultural land, and environmental degradation such as floods and landslides.

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