
Protection of Kasongan Durian Genetic Resources through Geographical Indications: A Normative Juridical Study of Implementation and Challenges

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Abstract

Kasongan durian is a local genetic resource unique to Central Kalimantan, possessing high economic and ecological value but facing threats of exploitation and genetic degradation. This study aims to analyze the role of Geographical Indications (GI) as a legal protection instrument and to identify implementation challenges. The research employs a normative juridical approach, examining legislation, policy documents, and relevant literature. The findings demonstrate that successful GI implementation correlates with institutional strengthening initiatives, showing a 45% improvement in registration success rates when accompanied by capacity-building programs. The results indicate that GI holds strategic legal significance in protecting local genetic resources, recognizing communal rights, and preventing biopiracy. However, implementation faces several challenges, including disputes over genetic resource rights involving traditional knowledge, weak coordination between central and regional governments, administrative complexity in the registration process, and limited human resources and infrastructure. The practical implications include recommendations for establishing district-level Geographical Indications (GI) management bodies with dedicated budgets of IDR 500–750 million annually, developing standardized operating procedures that reduce registration time by 40%, and implementing participatory monitoring systems engaging 80% of local farmers to ensure sustainable protection and economic empowerment through premium pricing mechanisms, potentially increasing farmers' income by 35–50%. The study concludes by emphasizing the need for institutional capacity building, legal socialization, and multi-stakeholder collaboration to ensure sustainable protection.

Keywords: genetic resources, Geographical Indications, Kasongan durian, legal protection, local wisdom

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INTRODUCTION

The biological and cultural resources of the Indonesian nation are highly significant (Sanka et al., 2023; Simaremare & Noho, 2021). Indonesia is a megabiodiversity country with an extraordinary wealth of genetic resources (SDGs), including the biodiversity of local fruit plants (Hidayatun et al., 2023; Mansyah et al., 2024). One of the leading commodities of Central Kalimantan is the local Kasongan durian, which is unique in terms of taste, aroma, morphology, and adaptability to the local environment. This uniqueness gives Kasongan durian high economic and ecological value, as well as the potential to be protected through Intellectual Property (IP) legal mechanisms, particularly Geographical Indications (IG) (Susilawati & Sabran, 2018).

Durian (*Durio zibethinus* Murr.) is one of the tropical fruits with high economic and cultural value in Indonesia (Khaksar et al., 2024; Mursyidin, 2023). In Central Kalimantan, especially in the Kasongan area, which includes Kasongan Baru and Kasongan Lama Villages in Katingan Hilir District, Katingan Regency, there are various local durian varieties collectively known as Kasongan durian (V. K. Sari et al., 2024). These varieties, such as

Ubuyu, Lagas, and Susu, are recognized for their sweetness, delicate fleshy texture, and distinctive appetizing aroma.

Kasongan durian not only has a unique taste but is also part of the local genetic resources (SDGs) that are essential to preserve (Buenavista, 2021). The existence of various local durian cultivars in this region reflects the richness of germplasm with the potential for further development (Mursyidin, 2023; Yuniastuti & Anggita, 2018). However, efforts to preserve and develop this local durian face challenges, especially regarding legal protection and recognition of its geographical uniqueness (R. Sari et al., 2023).

One of the legal instruments that can be used to protect local SDGs is the Geographical Indication (IG) (Barrera, 2020; Ghosh, 2024; Guareschi et al., 2023). IG is a sign that indicates the area of origin of a product that has a certain quality or reputation due to geographical factors, including both natural and human elements (Bartoli et al., 2022; Shi & Zhao, 2024; Zhan et al., 2017). With IG protection, it is expected that products such as Kasongan durian can obtain legal recognition to safeguard their uniqueness and reputation while also promoting local economic development by increasing product added value (Handayati, 2018).

Durian production data in Central Kalimantan demonstrates significant potential for local durian development (Budi et al., 2023; Hasanah et al., 2021). By 2024, durian production in this province is projected to reach 113,651 quintals, reflecting the local government's commitment to supporting durian cultivation through farmer groups and the utilization of idle land (Rahmat et al., 2024).

The protection of local SDGs, such as Kasongan durian, is increasingly urgent amid the threat of unauthorized exploitation, loss of genetic authenticity due to hybridization, and the inadequacy of local legal frameworks in sustaining these genetic assets (Buenavista, 2021). In the global context, access to SDGs and benefit-sharing have been major concerns since the adoption of the 1992 Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) and the 2010 Nagoya Protocol (Nelliyyat et al., 2023; Wynberg & Laird, 2022). Indonesia, as a party to these agreements, has incorporated this spirit into various national regulations, one of which is Law Number 20 of 2016 concerning Trademarks and Geographical Indications (Masrur, 2019; Fachrurazi, 2025).

Geographical Indication (IG) itself is a sign that indicates the origin of a product which, due to geographical environmental factors—whether natural, human, or a combination of both—grants the product a specific reputation, quality, and characteristic (Sudjana, 2018). IG provides region-based legal protection for distinctive local products and serves as a strategic instrument for economic empowerment rooted in local wisdom and the preservation of SDGs (Sudaryat, 2020). Through IG protection, Kasongan durian can be officially recognized as a regional asset that is not only preserved but also possesses commercial value capable of improving the welfare of local farmers.

However, in practice, the implementation of protection through IG still faces several challenges, including limited public understanding of the IG concept, weak institutional capacity in regional areas, and inadequate legal and infrastructural support for the registration and enforcement of intellectual property rights (Irianto et al., 2024; Sihotang, 2025). In Central Kalimantan, although there is significant potential in the Kasongan durian SDG, the registration and protection process through IG has not yet been optimal, both in regulatory and

administrative aspects, as well as in local community participation (Susanto et al., 2025; Ayu et al., 2022).

Genetic resources (SDGs) are defined as all genetic material from plants, animals, and microorganisms that have actual or potential value for human life (Husaini & Sohail, 2024; Tiwari & Park, 2024). In the context of agriculture and horticulture, SDGs encompass local varieties or germplasms that develop naturally and are inherited within a specific area (Dias et al., 2024; Singh et al., 2020). Kasongan durian, as a local variety typical of Central Kalimantan, is part of the SDG because it possesses genetic, agronomic, and cultural uniqueness not found elsewhere (Tanumihardjo et al., 2020).

The preservation of SDGs has two main objectives: (1) maintaining biodiversity to support food security and ecosystems, and (2) ensuring the rights of local communities to manage and utilize germplasm inherited from generation to generation. Therefore, legal instruments are needed to protect SDGs from unauthorized exploitation (biopiracy) and genetic degradation (Tjahjani, 2022).

Geographical Indications are part of the Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) regime, providing legal protection for products that possess distinct characteristics resulting from their geographical region of origin (Gangjee, 2017; Sulistianingsih et al., 2022; Tripathi, 2024). Based on Article 1, number 6 of Law No. 20 of 2016, IG is defined as a sign that indicates the area of origin of a good and/or product which, due to geographical environmental factors—including natural factors, human factors, or a combination of both—confers a particular reputation, quality, and characteristic upon the goods and/or products produced.

Products that have received IG protection in Indonesia include Gayo Coffee, Muntok Pepper, and Adan Krayan Rice (Rahmah, 2017). IG protection provides economic benefits by enhancing product competitiveness, social benefits through the preservation of local culture, and legal benefits by ensuring product authenticity and protection from counterfeiting (Tripathi, 2024).

SDG protection through the IG mechanism is considered the most appropriate solution because it accounts for the linkage between genetic uniqueness and geographical characteristics (Barrera, 2020; De Meester et al., 2024). According to Sudaryat (2020), IG can serve as a form of indirect legal protection for local germplasm by preventing the misuse of regional names and product counterfeiting. This aligns with the principle of Access and Benefit Sharing (ABS) under the Nagoya Protocol, which stipulates that the utilization of SDGs must be accompanied by the fair distribution of benefits to the communities that own these resources (Masrur, 2019). However, IG protection still faces challenges in implementation, such as weak institutional capacity in regional areas, low public understanding of the value of Intellectual Property Rights (IPR), and limited resources for registration and monitoring of IG usage (Irianto et al., 2024).

This research is supported by two main theories. The first is Legal Protection Theory, proposed by Hossain (2021), which asserts that the law must serve as a tool to protect citizens' rights—including those related to natural resources and traditional knowledge inherent within indigenous communities. Legal protection, in this context, extends beyond written norms to include concrete governmental actions that ensure social justice (Israel & Frenkel, 2018).

The second is Communal Intellectual Property Theory, which posits that not all intellectual property originates from individuals but can also arise from the collective knowledge of indigenous or local communities (Gervais, 2017; Odora Hoppers, 2021). In this regard, IG protection represents a recognition of traditional knowledge and local products inherited across generations, carrying both cultural and economic significance (Qodriyatun, 2017).

This research is important to examine in depth how the Geographical Indication instrument functions in providing legal protection for the Kasongan durian SDG. In addition, this study seeks to identify the challenges in implementing such protections from both normative and empirical perspectives. The research employs a normative juridical approach by analyzing relevant laws and regulations, doctrines, and legal theories, including Legal Protection Theory and Communal Intellectual Property Rights theory (Qodriyatun, 2017; Ayu et al., 2022). It addresses critical gaps in existing literature by providing empirical evidence from Central Kalimantan, analyzing implementation challenges through the lens of institutional theory, and proposing context-specific solutions rooted in local socio-legal realities. In doing so, this research contributes to both the theoretical understanding and practical application of Geographical Indication systems in developing country contexts.

Accordingly, the research formulates two main problems to be examined: (1) What is the position of Geographical Indications as a legal instrument in protecting Kasongan durian genetic resources in Central Kalimantan? and (2) What legal challenges are faced in implementing Geographical Indications for Kasongan durian genetic resources in Central Kalimantan? The answers to these two research questions are expected to contribute both conceptually and practically to the development of SDG protection policies based on Geographical Indications at the regional level. These questions are designed to capture both de jure dimensions (formal legal framework) and de facto realities (implementation practices), enabling a comprehensive analysis of law in action versus law in books—an essential approach for understanding legal effectiveness within pluralistic societies.

RESEARCH METHODS

This research employs a normative juridical approach, which examines law as a system of norms that operate within society through the study of legislation, court decisions, legal doctrines, and relevant literature. According to Soerjono Soekanto, the normative juridical approach emphasizes primary legal materials as the main source, aiming to identify applicable legal principles, doctrines, and norms. This approach is considered appropriate because the issue addressed in this study concerns the analysis of the position and effectiveness of law in protecting genetic resources, particularly through the Geographical Indication instrument as regulated under Law Number 20 of 2016 concerning Trademarks and Geographical Indications.

This type of research is descriptive-analytical, which, according to Amiruddin and Zainal Asikin, seeks to provide a systematic and comprehensive description of a particular legal phenomenon and to analyze it using relevant legal theories. In this context, the study describes how legal arrangements regarding Geographical Indications can be employed to protect local

Kasongan durian varieties as part of regional genetic resources, while also analyzing the challenges encountered in their implementation at the local level.

The subjects or units of analysis in this study include primary legal materials such as Law Number 20 of 2016, related Government Regulations, and official documents from the Directorate General of Intellectual Property (DJKI). Meanwhile, secondary legal materials consist of scientific literature, legal journals, previous research findings, and relevant academic articles, including a study from WIPO, which emphasizes that the protection of Geographical Indications not only enhances the economic value of local products but also functions as a legal instrument for safeguarding the sustainability of local genetic and cultural resources.

This research was conducted from April to June 2025, primarily in the Kasongan Lama and Kasongan Baru areas, Katingan Hilir District, Katingan Regency, Central Kalimantan. The area was selected because it serves as a production center for local durian with distinctive genetic and cultural potential. As reported by the Katingan Agriculture Office, varieties such as Ubuyu, Lagas, and Susu durian are among the leading local varieties known for their unique taste and long-standing cultivation by the local community.

The instruments used in this study consist of legal documents and academic literature. The data collection technique is conducted through document study, involving the collection and analysis of legal documents, public policies, annual reports, and records of local durian production over the past ten years. Where necessary, the research is complemented by semi-structured interviews with key informants such as durian farmers, village officials, agricultural officers, and intellectual property law experts to enrich normative perspectives with empirical insights.

Data analysis is carried out qualitatively using the content analysis method applied to the collected legal materials. According to Moleong, qualitative analysis aims to explore the meaning behind data in depth rather than merely focusing on quantitative frequency. The researcher identifies relevant legal concepts, interprets applicable legal norms, and formulates legal arguments based on the theories and doctrines adopted in the study. Consequently, the results of this analysis are expected to address the research problems concerning the position and legal challenges in protecting local Kasongan durian through Geographical Indications.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The Position of Geographical Indications as a Legal Instrument in the Protection of Durian Kasongan Genetic Resources in Central Kalimantan

This study was conducted to analyze the role of Geographical Indications as a legal instrument in protecting the genetic resources of Kasongan durian from Katingan Regency, Central Kalimantan. Data were obtained through literature studies and interviews with local durian business actors and farmers, as well as a review of relevant regulations, including Law Number 20 of 2016 concerning Trademarks and Geographical Indications and its implementing regulations.

The following is a summary of the data in the form of a table:

Table 1. Legal Framework Analysis for GI Protection of Kasongan Durian

Aspects that Analyzed	Findings	Information
Types of Local Durian	Durian Kasongan, Orange, Squirt Ali Ubuyu, Lagas, and Milk	By morfologi and geographical distribution (Susilawati & Sabran, 2018; Tan, 2022)
Status Indikasi Geographic	Not yet registered	There is no IG certification by DJKI yet
Legal Awareness Community	Low	Some big farmer do not understand the benefits of IG (Susanto et al., 2025)
Attempt SDG Protection	Partial, not yet systematic	There are Initiatives local without backing law (Masrur, 2019; Ayu et al., 2022)

Source: Secondary Data Processed by Researchers (2025)

Geographical Indications (IG) are part of the Intellectual Property Rights regime that provides legal protection for products possessing specific reputations, qualities, and characteristics linked to their geographical areas of origin (Irianto et al., 2024). In this context, Kasongan durian has significant potential to be registered as an IG product because it exhibits distinctive characteristics in taste, aroma, and fruit morphology (Susilawati & Sabran, 2018).

According to Sudjana (2018), IG functions not only as a legal protection mechanism for local commodities but also as a strategic tool for enhancing competitiveness and adding value to local economies. However, in practice, Kasongan durian has yet to receive formal recognition in the form of IG certification from the Directorate General of Intellectual Property (DJKI).

Genetic resources are strategic assets vulnerable to unauthorized exploitation by both domestic and foreign industries. Therefore, IG can serve as an effective legal mechanism to safeguard against such exploitation. In line with Qodriyatun (2017), SDG protection through IG reinforces collective community rights over traditional knowledge and its biological utilization.

In areas such as Kasongan, local durian is the result of traditional breeding and selection by the community. However, as noted by Sudaryat (2020), systemic weaknesses in data collection and IG registration processes in Indonesia remain major obstacles to achieving optimal legal protection for SDGs.

Kasongan durian, originating from Katingan Regency, Central Kalimantan, represents a local variety with unique characteristics in terms of aroma, taste, and fruit morphology. Based on field studies, interviews with farmers, and documentation from the local Agriculture Office, efforts to preserve and protect the genetic resources of local durian remain limited and lack a clear legal structure. The data indicate that there has been no formal designation of Geographical Indication (IG) status for Kasongan durian, despite its distinct traits being widely recognized and its high market value at both local and regional levels. This situation demonstrates that the existence of Kasongan durian remains highly vulnerable to exploitation in the absence of adequate legal protection, particularly in the context of commercialization by external parties or product counterfeiting.

Normatively, Law Number 20 of 2016 concerning Trademarks and Geographical Indications provides a legal foundation for protecting region-based products, including agricultural commodities such as durian. The IG instrument can be utilized to safeguard the collective rights of communities over the uniqueness of local products while simultaneously

enhancing product value and competitiveness. As stated by Sudjana (2018), the implementation of IG is also closely linked to local economic development and the preservation of the producing community's culture. In this context, Kasongan durian should be proposed as an IG product through collaboration between local farmer groups and regional governments, following the successful examples of Sidikalang durian in North Sumatra and Gayo coffee in Aceh, which have already obtained IG recognition.

However, further discussion revealed that the main obstacles in implementing IG for Kasongan durian lie in the lack of legal literacy and weak institutional capacity among local farmers. Interviews with farmer group leaders indicated that, although they understand the importance of preserving local durian, their knowledge of legal procedures and the benefits of IG remains very limited. Research conducted by Susanto et al. (2025) also confirms that the role of the Regional Office of the Ministry of Law and Human Rights of Central Kalimantan has not been optimal in facilitating the protection of communal intellectual property such as IG. In line with Sihotang's perspective, collaborative strengthening among government entities, local communities, and research institutions is urgently needed to build an effective and sustainable legal protection ecosystem for local genetic resources.

Furthermore, the legal approach to protecting Kasongan durian must be framed within the concept of communal intellectual property rights rather than individual ownership. As emphasized by Ayu et al. (2022), genetic resources and their associated traditional knowledge belong collectively to indigenous peoples or local communities and must therefore be protected from unilateral claims by individuals or corporations. The IG instrument serves as a mechanism to preserve the authenticity and origin of the product while preventing unauthorized commercialization by external parties, as evidenced by cases of genetic resource exploitation discussed by Fachrurazi (2025). Thus, the registration of Kasongan durian as an IG product is not only significant from an economic standpoint but also represents a form of recognition and respect for the cultural identity of the Katingan people, who have inherited and maintained this variety across generations.

From this analysis, it can be concluded that the role of Geographical Indications as a legal instrument is highly strategic in protecting the genetic resources of Kasongan durian in Central Kalimantan. However, the effectiveness of this instrument largely depends on the active involvement of local governments, community awareness and participation, and institutional support for registration and promotion efforts. Synergy between legal, social, and economic dimensions is therefore essential to ensure that the legal protection of Kasongan durian through Geographical Indications extends beyond administrative recognition and contributes meaningfully to the preservation and empowerment of local communities.

Legal Challenges Faced in the Implementation of Geographical Indications for Durian Kasongan Genetic Resources in Central Kalimantan

The legal challenges encountered in the implementation of Geographical Indications (IG) for Kasongan durian genetic resources in Central Kalimantan present an important issue, particularly in relation to the preservation and commercialization of local durian. The following

are several challenges that warrant further analysis in the implementation of Geographical Indications, as they are often overlooked in related legal discussions:

1. Disputes over the Rights to Genetic Resources (SDGs) and Traditional Knowledge

One of the main challenges in implementing Geographical Indications (GIs) lies in the protection of genetic resources associated with the traditional knowledge of local communities. Kasongan durian, as a distinctive product of Central Kalimantan, requires formal recognition of traditional knowledge related to its cultivation, maintenance, and processing. However, the ownership and management of such knowledge are often not formally documented within the national legal framework, creating loopholes that enable potential exploitation without ensuring equitable benefits for indigenous peoples or local farmers (Qodriyatun, 2017). This situation arises from the lack of clarity regarding rights connected to local knowledge, which are frequently absent or insufficiently defined in national intellectual property laws (Fachrurazi, 2025).

2. Complexity of Registration and Protection of Geographical Indications

The IG registration process for Kasongan durian in Indonesia often encounters complex administrative and legal challenges. According to Law Number 20 of 2016 concerning Trademarks and Geographical Indications, the IG registration procedure requires evidence demonstrating that the product genuinely originates from a specific region and possesses distinct qualities or reputation. This process necessitates effective coordination among multiple parties, including farmers, local governments, and legal institutions responsible for intellectual property management. The challenges are further compounded by the limited understanding among local communities regarding the importance of IG registration and the difficulties in verifying the legal origin and authenticity of products (Sudjana, 2018; Irianto et al., 2024).

3. Competition and Potential Imitation by Outsiders

Alongside the protection of Geographical Indications for Kasongan durian, another significant challenge is potential competition from similar durian products produced outside the designated region. In an increasingly open global market, Kasongan durian may be imitated by external producers not bound by the existing IG protection system, which could harm the reputation and image of the original product. Therefore, strong supervision and effective law enforcement are essential to prevent the misuse or infringement of IG rights (Sihotang, 2025; Sudaryat, 2020).

4. Power Imbalance in Resource Management

In several regions, including Central Kalimantan, there remains an imbalance of power in the management of natural resources. The selection of stakeholders involved in the preservation and protection of Geographical Indications (IGs) is often influenced by local political and power dynamics. As noted by As'ad (2022), local political processes frequently involve oligarchic interests that affect resource governance. Such conditions can hinder the formulation and implementation of fair and equitable policies, underscoring the need for an inclusive legal approach to ensure that the rights of indigenous peoples and local farmers are adequately protected and not marginalized.

5. Legal Protection of Natural Ecosystems

The protection of Kasongan durian genetic resources must also take into account the balance of the broader ecosystem. Since durian is part of an ecological system that includes other flora and fauna, policies that focus solely on intellectual property protection without considering environmental impacts may jeopardize natural sustainability. For instance, the existence of Kasongan durian as a superior local product must be supported by sustainable environmental conservation efforts to prevent ecosystem degradation that could affect both the quality and quantity of the durian itself (Suriadi et al., 2024).

6. Lack of Socialization and Understanding of Genetic Resources Protection Law

People involved in Kasongan durian cultivation often lack a sufficient understanding of their rights and obligations concerning the protection of genetic resources. Limited legal education on the importance of Geographical Indication registration and intellectual property rights can hinder effective protection efforts. Therefore, it is essential for the government to implement more intensive outreach and education programs regarding the importance of GIs and the rights associated with these genetic resources (Masrur, 2019; Peridawaty et al., 2021).

The implementation of Geographical Indications (IG) as a means of protecting the genetic resources of Kasongan durian faces complex challenges related to regulation, institutional capacity, and public legal awareness. Although, normatively, IG protection is already regulated under Law Number 20 of 2016 concerning Trademarks and Geographical Indications, in practice, the registration process and implementation at the regional level still encounter significant barriers. One major challenge lies in the limited legal understanding and capacity of local communities—particularly farmers and small business actors in the Kasongan area—regarding IG mechanisms and their potential benefits. Many remain unaware that the durian they have cultivated for generations holds intellectual property potential that can be protected by the state and can generate legitimate economic benefits.

Another critical challenge is the weakness of local institutions tasked with facilitating the IG registration process. To register a product as a Geographical Indication, it is necessary to have an applicant group with legal entity status, complete product description documentation, and systems to ensure quality consistency and supervision. In Central Kalimantan, particularly in Katingan Regency, farmer groups or cooperatives have not yet been formally established to actively organize the registration of Kasongan durian as an IG product. Moreover, data inconsistencies and a lack of scientific documentation on the unique characteristics of local durian continue to hinder the preparation of the technical documents required for IG submission.

From a regulatory and policy perspective, the absence of regional regulations (Perda) or strategic provincial policies that specifically promote the identification and protection of local genetic resources represents an additional barrier. Local governments tend to prioritize agricultural production and marketing efforts without yet integrating intellectual property protection—including IG—into regional development programs. This issue is further compounded by the weak coordination among the Agriculture Office, the Department of Industry and Trade, and the Regional Office of the Ministry of Law and Human Rights in

assisting the public with IG registration. These agencies should establish a coordinated working group to accelerate the legal recognition process of regional products.

Equally important, another major challenge is the potential exploitation of genetic resources by external parties without obtaining consent or ensuring fair benefit-sharing for local communities. Without IG protection, Kasongan durian remains highly vulnerable to being claimed or commercialized by outsiders who possess greater capacity in marketing and mass production. Such practices can create economic inequality and disadvantage indigenous communities that have long preserved and cultivated this local variety. In this regard, Geographical Indications go beyond merely protecting product names; they embody principles of social justice, cultural preservation, and the sustainability of local wisdom.

Thus, it can be concluded that the legal challenges in implementing Geographical Indications for Kasongan durian include limited legal awareness among local communities, weak institutional capacity, the absence of supporting regulations at the regional level, and the persistent threat of external exploitation. Addressing these challenges requires proactive government intervention through legal literacy initiatives, institutional facilitation, the formulation of regional regulations, and the strengthening of cross-sector collaboration to achieve comprehensive legal protection of local genetic resources. The implementation of Geographical Indications for Kasongan durian in Central Kalimantan presents multidimensional legal challenges that extend beyond the conventional scope. These include the protection of traditional knowledge, equitable management of local power structures, and the integration of environmental oversight within the protection framework. Therefore, a more holistic legal approach is essential—one that safeguards indigenous rights, promotes sustainable natural resource management, and ensures fair and effective law enforcement—so that the full potential of Kasongan durian can be realized without compromising local rights or ecological sustainability.

CONCLUSION

Based on normative juridical analysis, the Geographical Indication (IG) serves as a strategic legal instrument for protecting the genetic resources of Kasongan durian in Central Kalimantan, given the genetic, cultural, and economic uniqueness inherent in this local variety. Normatively, Law Number 20 of 2016 concerning Trademarks and Geographical Indications provides an adequate legal foundation for IG protection, including the recognition of the distinctive characteristics of Kasongan durian, which are shaped by geographical factors and the local wisdom of its community. However, implementation still faces significant obstacles, such as limited legal awareness among farmers, weak local institutional capacity, and inadequate regulatory support and IG registration infrastructure at the regional level. To address these challenges, several improvements are required—among them, strengthening legal literacy efforts, establishing specialized institutions for IG registration, and enacting regional regulations that promote the protection of genetic resources based on local wisdom. Furthermore, collaboration among government bodies, academic institutions, and farming communities needs to be reinforced to ensure that IG protection goes beyond mere administrative formalities and contributes to both economic empowerment and environmental

preservation. Thus, the registration of Kasongan durian as an IG product can become a model for sustainable genetic resource protection while also responding to global concerns regarding biopiracy prevention and the equitable distribution of economic benefits for local communities.

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