

The Impact of Urbanization and Migration on the Protection of Agricultural and Forested Lands in the Context of Spatial Planning

Małgorzata Kukolska

University of Warmia and Mazury in Olsztyn, Faculty of Geoengineering,

Department of Land Management and Geographic Information Systems

*Corresponding author: kukolska@gmail.com

Keywords: conversation to other purposes, migration, farmland, forests, spatial planning

Socio-economic development, urbanization, and migration are integral components of the modern world. Based on the projected trends for 2030, there is an expected increase in built-up and urbanized areas, a slight increase in agricultural land, a decline in forest land, and a decrease in migration to cities while migration to rural areas is expected to rise. The increase in built-up and urbanized areas poses a risk to the availability of agricultural and forest lands. However, the slight increase in agricultural land provides some relief in mitigating the negative effects of urbanization. On the other hand, the decline in forest land raises concerns for biodiversity and forest ecosystems. The expansion of urban areas and changes in land use for other purposes contribute to this decline. The projected increase in migration to rural areas requires appropriate actions in spatial planning to ensure sustainable development, protection of agricultural and forest lands, and the provision of necessary infrastructure and services for the rural population.

In the context of spatial planning, it is important to consider these projections and develop strategies that aim to protect agricultural and forest lands. Sustainable urbanization, the provision of green spaces in cities, and the promotion of environmentally friendly practices are crucial for safeguarding the natural environment. Collaboration among the public, private, and civil society sectors is essential to achieve the goals of protecting agricultural and forest lands in the face of changing migration and urbanization trends.