

## THE ROLE OF WAQF INSTITUTIONS IN COMMUNITY EMPOWERMENT

Rinda Asytuti<sup>1</sup>, Sekar Arumandani<sup>2</sup>, Hilda Adisty<sup>3</sup>, Dina Ambarwati<sup>4</sup>

*Faculty of Economics and Islamic Business, K.H. Abdurrahman Wahid State Islamic University Pekalongan Indonesia*

[rindanadirin@gmail.com](mailto:rindanadirin@gmail.com), [sekararrumm234@gmail.com](mailto:sekararrumm234@gmail.com),  
[hildadistya21@gmail.com](mailto:hildadistya21@gmail.com), [dinaambarwati37@gmail.com](mailto:dinaambarwati37@gmail.com)

### ABSTRAK

Tulisan ini akan membahas tentang peranan wakaf dalam pemberdayaan masyarakat. Wakaf sebagai bentuk filantrophy yang memiliki potensial dalam memenuhi kebutuhan sosial masyarakat, dan keberlangsungannya. Tulisan ini terbagi dalam beberapa bagian diantaranya cakground, teori, research metodologi dan temuan yang berkaitan dengan kiprah organisasi pengelola wakaf dalam perdayaan umat.

**Kata Kunci:** wakaf, pemberdayaan masyarakat, aktifitas social, pembangunan berkelanjutan, dampak sosial

### ABSTRACT

*This journal explores the crucial role of wakaf institutions in empowering communities. Wakaf, as a form of charitable endowment, has the potential to address societal needs and contribute to sustainable development. The study delves into the background, theoretical foundations, research methodology, and presents findings and discussions related to the impact of wakaf organizations on community empowerment.*

**Keywords:** Wakaf, Community Empowerment, Charitable Endowment, Sustainable Development, Social Impact.

## **INTRODUCTION**

Waqf institutions have a rich historical heritage of making positive contributions to the welfare of society. As a form of charity originating from Islamic teachings, waqf institutions have grown and developed over time, making significant contributions to various aspects of social and economic life. Since early times, waqf institutions have supported education, health, and general welfare, creating the foundation for more resilient communities (Gunawan et al., 2022).

This research is based on an understanding of the evolution of waqf institutions, exploring changes in their role over time. These changes reflect the adaptation of waqf institutions to society's challenges and changing needs of society. This evolution not only includes the structural and functional development of waqf institutions but also explores shifts in the understanding of philanthropy and social responsibility inherent in institutions waqf.

The research background also highlights the urgency of involving waqf institutions in improving community welfare. As agents of social and economic development, waqf institutions have the potential to not only meet short-term needs but also to create a sustainable impact in the long term. The active involvement of waqf institutions is becoming increasingly important in addressing the complex challenges faced by modern societies, ensuring that human values and social justice continue to be realized through the charitable initiatives they support.

The research methodology used in this journal includes qualitative and quantitative approaches. Surveys, interviews, and statistical data analysis are used to collect comprehensive information about The impact of waqf institutions on community empowerment. This research involves collaboration with leading waqf institutions and local communities.

## **DISCUSSION**

Waqf is a form of charity that aims to provide benefits to society through the allocation of certain assets or funds. As an eternal charity, waqf institutions have a social and economic responsibility to support community needs. This concept is related to the principles of Islamic philanthropy encouraging Muslims to share their wealth to increase collective prosperity (Ummah et al., 2018).

Understanding the evolution of waqf institutions from time to time. From the individual beginning, waqf institutions have developed into institutions that are more organized and focused on meeting collective needs. Literature research also discusses the development of waqf law and changes in roles waqf institutions in facing social and economic dynamics.

The basic concept of waqf institutions is a philosophical basis underlines the nature and main objectives of this institution in the context of Islamic teachings. The main pillar of this concept is the principle of eternal charity, in which the waqf institution was founded to provide benefits that last forever. Waqf, as a form of eternal contribution, reflects a commitment to maintaining sustainable community empowerment and meeting needs general, depicts a spirit of sharing that is rooted in Islamic values (Hilmi, 2018).

### **Community Empowerment Theory**

Community empowerment theory is an important basis for understanding the role of waqf institutions as empowerment agents. This concept suggests that empowerment does not only include increasing access to resources, but also involves strengthening the capacity of individuals and groups to take an active role in their development. In the context of waqf institutions, this theory provides a comprehensive view of how waqf institutions can function as a catalyst for positive change in society. Literature research on community empowerment theory also helps identify indicators critical measures that can be measured to evaluate the impact of empowerment produced by waqf institution interventions (Soemitra, 2018).

The importance of community empowerment theory in the context of waqf institutions lies in its focus on empowerment as a process, not just a result. This reinforces the idea that waqf institutions are not only providing direct assistance, but also empowering communities by giving them the tools and knowledge to take control of their own lives. By understanding community empowerment theory, waqf institutions can design and implement programs that truly support the development of community capacity, create sustainable positive impacts, and encourage to achievement of social and economic independence (Dikuraisyin, 2020).

### **Sustainable Development Framework**

The Sustainable Development Framework (SDG) is the main guideline for waqf institutions in achieving sustainable goals and providing an overall positive impact. Consisting of 17 Sustainable Development Goals, the SDGs cover various aspects of life, starting from poverty alleviation to environmental protection. In the context of waqf institutions, the application of this framework leads to the understanding that every decision and policy must be directed at achieving holistic and integrated sustainable development goals (Humaida et al., 2020).

The Sustainable Development Framework rests on an overarching vision to achieve sustainable progress at the global level. Waqf institutions, as part of civil society, can play an active role in supporting and accelerating the achievement of the SDGs through the support programs. For example, the allocation of waqf funds to projects that Sport education, health, and economic empowerment can not only contribute to specific goals, but also promote balanced integration between economic, social, and environmental dimensions (Sujono & Laily)

The Sustainable Development Framework triggers waqf institutions to implement a sustainable approach to asset management and programs. This involves in- depth consideration of environmental impacts, social inclusiveness, and economic balance within each strategic decisions. By following SDG principles, waqf institutions can be a strong partner in joint efforts to create a more sustainable and just world (Saputra, 2021).

### **The Role of Waqf in Education**

The role of waqf institutions in education is a crucial element in forming an inclusive vision for increasing access to education in society. The research results reflect a significant positive impact of waqf allocation for education, with the creation of schools and the provision of scholarships as key initiatives. The establishment of schools by waqf institutions creates new educational facilities capable of meeting educational needs in the community that is served. Additionally, offering scholarships opens doors of opportunity for individuals who may face economic barriers to pursuing education high level, creating an inclusive environment that enriches the diversity of knowledge and skills (Suharto, 2015).

This positive impact can be observed in increasing the literacy and skills levels of local communities. With schools supported by waqf institutions, people have better access to education formal. Scholarship provisions also provide financial incentives and support, ensuring that potential talents are not hampered by economic constraints.

Initiatives like this illustrate the role of waqf institutions in overcoming unequal access to education, stimulating intellectual development, and empowering communities to reach their maximum potential (Albari, 2023).

The important role of waqf in education is not only limited to increasing literacy but also creating the foundation for long-term development in society. By providing equal access to education and supporting skills development, waqf institutions can be the main driver in building a society that is intelligent, educated, and able to compete in a world that continues to develop (Rohmatillah, 2023).

### **The Role of Waqf in Health**

The role of waqf institutions in the health sector is an important aspect of responding to public health challenges. The research results highlight the positive contribution of waqf in increasing access to health services. Investment allocated for the construction of health facilities is a strategic step in ensuring that the communities served have adequate access to medical care. With the existence of health facilities supported by waqf institutions, the community can overcome geographical and economic obstacles which often become obstacles to obtaining quality health services (Ansari, 2023).

In addition to investing in health facilities, waqf institutions also play a key role in disease prevention programs. This approach includes public education, the provision of vaccines, and health campaigns aimed at reducing disease incidence and increasing awareness of good health practices. This investment not only minimizes the impact of disease but also plays a role in empowering people with health knowledge that can help them live a healthier lifestyle (Juliyanti, 2022).

Medical support from waqf institutions is the main support in improving community welfare. Through medical support programs, such as financial assistance for treatment and accessibility of medicines, waqf institutions can help people who may face economic obstacles to obtain necessary medical care. By

playing an active role in the health sector, waqf institutions can provide significant impact in improving the quality of life of the community and providing concrete solutions to health challenges, 2023

### **The Contribution waqf for Economy**

The role of waqf institutions in the economic sector makes a contribution important to local economic growth. In this context, waqf is not only a source of additional funding but also an incentive for major economic development at the local level. The financial support provided by waqf institutions to local communities provides stimulus positive economy. This investment can be used to support various economic projects, including the establishment of small businesses, cooperatives, and infrastructure projects aimed at increasing productivity and creating jobs (Huda, 2017).

Apart from financial support, the role of waqf institutions in providing Skills training also has a positive impact in building community economic capacity. Through training programs, waqf institutions help local people develop skills relevant to labor market needs. This not only increases people's competitiveness in the world of work but also opens up opportunities for entrepreneurship. Thus, waqf institutions play a role not only as providers of funds but also as facilitators of sustainable economic capacity development (Safiani, 2020).

The contribution of waqf institutions in starting small businesses, increasing income, and reducing poverty levels provides a positive impact that is felt in the long term. By empowering the community through economic initiatives, waqf institutions create an environment in which local economic potential can be activated. The impact goes beyond just economic parameters, creating economic resilience at the community level which ultimately contributes to sustainable development (Khudzaifah et al., 2023).

### **CONCLUSIONS**

Based on the research results, it can be concluded that waqf institutions have great potential to empower society through strategic investments in education, health, and economic development. Effective collaboration between waqf institutions, government, and society can create a sustainable positive impact and encourage the creation of a more prosperous society as a whole.

## REFERENCE

- Aditya, H. (2023). *Optimalisasi Manajemen Pelayanan Gerai Sehat di Layanan Kesehatan Cuma-Cuma (LKC) Dompot Dhuafa Jawa Tengah* (Doctoral dissertation, UIN Prof. KH Saifuddin Zuhri).
- Albarri, A. H. (2023). *Optimalisasi Program Advokasi Sosial Filantropi Islam dalam Mencapai Pilar Pembangunan Sosial SDGs* (Doctoral dissertation, IAIN Ponorogo).
- Anshari, A. (2023). Optimalisasi Manajemen Operasional Untuk Pemanfaatan Dana Wakaf Yang Efisien. *Journal of Creative Power and Ambition (JCPA)*, 1(02), 14- 28.
- Dikuraisyin, B. (2020). Manajemen Aset Wakaf Berbasis Kearifan Lokal Dengan Pendekatan Sosio-Ekonomi di Lembaga Wakaf Sabilillah Malang. *Ziswaf: Jurnal Zakat Dan Wakaf*, 7(2), 100-117.
- Gunawan, F., Mahmud, A., & Umasugi, N. (2022). Peran Nazhir dalam Pengelolaan Wakaf Produktif pada Yayasan Kesejahteraan Nurul Bahar Tomalou Kota Tidore Kepulauan. *Indonesian Journal of Shariah and Justice (IJSJ)*, 2(2), 199-228.
- Hilmi, A. (2018). *Konsep Hidup Sejahtera Perspektif Al-Qur'an (Studi Komparatif Penafsiran M. QuraishShihab dan Hamka)* (Bachelor's thesis).
- Huda, S. (2017). Kontribusi wakaf uang bagi pertumbuhan ekonomi umat di Yogyakarta.
- Humaida, N., Sa'adah, M. A., Huriyah, H., & Nida, N. H. (2020). Pembangunan Berkelanjutan Berwawasan Lingkungan (Sustainable Development Goals) dalam Perspektif Islam. *Khazanah: Jurnal Studi Islam Dan Humaniora*, 18(1), 131-154.
- Juliyanti, E. K. (2022). *Kebijakan Pemerintah Desa dalam Penanggulangan Stunting di Desa Nanga Raya Kecamatan Belimbing Hulu Kabupaten Melawi Kalimantan Barat Kecamatan Belimbing Hulu Kabupaten Melawi Provinsi Kalimantan Barat* (Doctoral dissertation, Sekolah Tinggi Pembangunan Masyarakat Desa" APMD").
- Khudzaifah Dimyati, S. H., Setiaji, B., & Kelik Wardiono, S. H. (2023). *Hukum dan lembaga Filantropi: Tawaran Konsep Pemberdayaan Ekonomi Masyarakat Berbasis Profetik* (Doctoral dissertation, Universitas Muhammadiyah Surakarta).
- Rohmatillah, N. (2023). Peningkatan Kemajuan Pendidikan Melalui Ekonomi Syariah Berbasis Wakaf dan Zakat. *DIMENSI-Journal of Sociology*, 12(1).

- Safiani, S. (2020). *Peran Bank Wakaf Mikro Dalam Pemberdayaan Ekonomi Umat (Studi Kasus Pada Bank Wakaf Mikro Mawaridussalam)* (Doctoral dissertation, Universitas Islam Negeri Sumatera Utara).
- Saputra, W. (2021). *Koordinasi Filantropi Dengan Bidang Pemerintahan Dan Pembangunan Manusia Pada Badan Perencanaan Pembangunan Daerah Penelitian Dan Pengembangan Dalam Pelaksanaan Tujuan Pembangunan Berkelanjutan Provinsi Riau (studi Pilar Sosial)* (Doctoral dissertation, Universitas Islam Riau).
- Soemitra, A. (2018). Peran pemberdayaan masyarakat oleh lembaga keuangan mikro syariah dalam perspektif sustainable development goals (SDGs).
- Suharto, H. B. (2015). *Marketing Pendidikan; Menata Ulang PTKI Menghadapi Pasar Bebas ASEAN*. LKIS Pelangi Aksara.
- Sujono, R. I., & Layli, M. Peran Pembangunan Berkelanjutan Dalam Pengentasan Kemiskinan Dan Pengangguran. *Ekonomi Sirkular Dan Pembangunan Berkelanjutan*, 185.
- Ummah, K. A., Riyadi, A. H. M. A. D., & Herianingrum, S. (2018). Pola Implementasi Alokasi ZISWAF Dalam Penyediaan Akses Pendidikan Bagi Kaum Dhuafa. *Jurnal Ekonomi dan Bisnis Islam*, 3(2), 247-257.