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REIMAGINING ISLAMIC SOCIAL FINANCE: INSTITUTIONAL ARCHITECTURE OF WAQF BANKS IN INDONESIA

MENATA ULANG KEUANGAN SOSIAL ISLAM: ARSITEKTUR KELEMBAGAAN BANK WAKAF DI INDONESIA

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ABSTRACT
The development of Islamic social finance has attracted increasing attention as an alternative mechanism to address socioeconomic challenges through sustainable and inclusive financial instruments. Waqf, as a fundamental Islamic social finance instrument, has significant potential to promote economic empowerment and social welfare; however, its transformation into productive and sustainable financial institutions remains limited, particularly in Indonesia. This study aims to analyse the institutional architecture of Waqf Banks in Indonesia by identifying essential structural, governance, operational, and regulatory dimensions that support their establishment and sustainability. This research employs a qualitative Systematic Literature Review (SLR) approach by reviewing 73 articles indexed in the Indonesian national journal database (SINTA). Through a systematic screening and eligibility process, six articles were selected as the most relevant studies for thematic analysis. The findings reveal that effective Waqf Bank development requires an integrated institutional framework involving governance mechanisms, ownership structures, sustainable capital mobilisation, Shariah-compliant transaction models, risk management, and regulatory harmonisation. The review further identifies a fundamental tension between waqf's social mission and financial sustainability requirements, highlighting the need for a hybrid institutional model. This study contributes to Islamic social finance literature by conceptualising Waqf Banks as a bridge between charitable endowment systems and modern Islamic financial ecosystems. The findings provide insights for policymakers, waqf authorities, and Islamic financial institutions in developing sustainable Waqf Bank models in Indonesia.
Keywords: Islamic social finance; waqf bank; institutional architecture; systematic literature review; Islamic banking; Indonesia

ABSTRAK
Perkembangan keuangan sosial Islam (Islamic Social Finance) telah menarik perhatian yang semakin besar sebagai mekanisme alternatif untuk mengatasi berbagai tantangan sosial ekonomi melalui instrumen keuangan yang berkelanjutan dan inklusif. Wakaf, sebagai salah satu instrumen fundamental dalam keuangan sosial Islam, memiliki potensi besar untuk mendorong pemberdayaan ekonomi dan meningkatkan kesejahteraan sosial. Namun, transformasi wakaf menjadi lembaga keuangan yang produktif dan berkelanjutan masih menghadapi keterbatasan, khususnya di Indonesia. Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk menganalisis arsitektur kelembagaan bank wakaf di Indonesia dengan mengidentifikasi dimensi struktural, tata kelola, operasional, dan regulasi yang penting dalam mendukung pembentukan serta keberlanjutan institusi tersebut. Penelitian ini menggunakan pendekatan kualitatif Systematic Literature Review (SLR) dengan mengkaji 73 artikel yang terindeks dalam basis data jurnal nasional Indonesia (SINTA). Melalui proses penyaringan dan seleksi kelayakan secara sistematis, 6 artikel dipilih sebagai penelitian yang paling relevan untuk dianalisis secara tematik. Hasil penelitian menunjukkan bahwa pengembangan bank wakaf yang efektif membutuhkan kerangka kelembagaan terpadu yang mencakup mekanisme tata kelola, struktur kepemilikan, mobilisasi modal berkelanjutan, model transaksi yang sesuai dengan prinsip syariah, manajemen risiko, serta harmonisasi regulasi. Kajian ini juga

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mengidentifikasi adanya ketegangan mendasar antara misi sosial wakaf dan tuntutan keberlanjutan finansial, sehingga diperlukan model kelembagaan hibrida. Penelitian ini memberikan kontribusi terhadap literatur keuangan sosial Islam dengan mengonseptualisasikan Bank Wakaf sebagai penghubung antara sistem wakaf sebagai lembaga filantropi dan ekosistem keuangan Islam modern. Temuan penelitian ini memberikan wawasan bagi pembuat kebijakan, otoritas wakaf, dan lembaga keuangan Islam dalam mengembangkan model bank wakaf yang berkelanjutan di Indonesia.
Kata Kunci: Keuangan sosial Islam; Bank Wakaf; arsitektur kelembagaan; systematic literature review; perbankan Islam; Indonesia.

1. INTRODUCTION

The emergence of Islamic social finance (ISF) represents a significant transformation in the global financial landscape, particularly in addressing socioeconomic inequalities through ethical, inclusive, and socially oriented financial mechanisms. Unlike conventional financial systems that primarily emphasise profitability and capital accumulation, Islamic social finance integrates economic activities with principles of social justice, wealth redistribution, and community empowerment derived from Islamic values. Among various instruments within ISF, waqf has historically played a crucial role in supporting education, healthcare, poverty alleviation, and public welfare development across Muslim societies (Abdullah & Ismail, 2017). In contemporary contexts, waqf has increasingly shifted from a traditional charitable institution towards a productive economic instrument capable of contributing to sustainable development and financial inclusion.

Indonesia provides a unique and significant context for examining the institutional transformation of waqf. As the country with the largest Muslim population globally, Indonesia possesses substantial waqf potential, particularly in cash waqf, which can serve as a strategic source of sustainable social financing. However, despite its enormous potential, waqf management in Indonesia remains constrained by institutional fragmentation, limited professional governance, low public literacy, and insufficient integration between waqf institutions and formal financial systems (Rusydiana & Avedta, 2022). Consequently, the challenge is not merely about increasing waqf collections but also about developing an effective institutional architecture to transform waqf assets into productive, sustainable financial resources.

The establishment of Waqf Banks has emerged as one potential solution to bridge the gap between philanthropic values and modern financial management. A Waqf Bank is a hybrid institutional model that combines the social objectives of waqf with the operational mechanisms of Islamic banking. Through appropriate governance structures, Shariah-compliant transactions, professional management, and regulatory support, Waqf Banks may provide access to financing for underserved communities while maintaining the sustainability of waqf assets. Previous studies have highlighted that waqf-based financial institutions can contribute to poverty reduction, economic empowerment, and inclusive development when supported by effective institutional arrangements (Hasib & Rusydiana, 2022; Handayani et al., 2025).

Nevertheless, the development of Waqf Banks in Indonesia remains in its early stages and faces several conceptual and operational challenges. Existing initiatives, such as Micro Waqf Banks (Bank Wakaf Mikro), have demonstrated the potential of waqf-based financing to empower micro-enterprises; however, their operational scope remains limited due to regulatory constraints, limited capital capacity, and their position outside the formal banking framework (Hasib & Rusydiana, 2022). The distinction between a charitable waqf institution and a commercial financial institution creates a fundamental institutional dilemma: how can Waqf Banks preserve the spiritual and social objectives of waqf while simultaneously achieving financial sustainability and operational efficiency?

This dilemma indicates a significant research gap. Previous studies have predominantly focused on specific dimensions of waqf management, such as cash waqf collection, Micro Waqf Bank development strategies, governance efficiency, or comparative implementation across

countries (Rusydiana & Avedta, 2022; Jaharuddin & Hidayatullah, 2025). However, few studies have systematically examined the comprehensive institutional architecture required to establish Waqf Banks, including ownership structures, capital models, governance mechanisms, transaction systems, risk management, and regulatory integration. A holistic understanding of these dimensions is essential because institutional design determines whether Waqf Banks can function as sustainable Islamic financial institutions rather than merely charitable intermediaries.

Furthermore, the existing literature indicates that Islamic social finance institutions often face tensions between social missions and commercial sustainability. While financial institutions require mechanisms for efficiency, risk management, and profitability, waqf institutions are fundamentally based on permanence, public benefit, and social responsibility. Therefore, designing an appropriate institutional architecture requires balancing maqasid al-Shariah objectives with modern financial governance principles. This balance is particularly relevant in Indonesia, where the regulatory environment involves multiple institutional frameworks, including waqf regulations, Islamic banking regulations, and financial institution governance standards.

A systematic examination of previous studies is therefore necessary to identify theoretical patterns, methodological trends, unresolved debates, and potential models for Waqf Bank development. Systematic Literature Review (SLR) provides an appropriate methodological approach because it enables researchers to synthesise fragmented knowledge, evaluate existing evidence, and develop conceptual frameworks based on accumulated scholarly findings. Recent research has demonstrated that SLR approaches are increasingly valuable in Islamic social finance studies, as they reveal research trajectories, institutional challenges, and future development opportunities in the field (Handayani et al., 2025).

Accordingly, this study aims to reimagine Islamic social finance by analysing the institutional architecture of Waqf Banks in Indonesia using a qualitative Systematic Literature Review. Specifically, this study seeks to answer three research questions: (1) What institutional dimensions are critical in developing sustainable Waqf Banks? (2) How do existing studies conceptualise governance, ownership, capital, and operational mechanisms within waqf-based financial institutions? and (3) What institutional framework can reconcile the social mission of waqf with the sustainability requirements of modern Islamic finance?

This study contributes to the literature in three important ways. First, it extends Islamic social finance scholarship by moving beyond discussions of waqf potential towards a deeper examination of institutional architecture and operational design. Second, it integrates fragmented perspectives from waqf management, Islamic banking, and social finance literature to develop a comprehensive understanding of Waqf Bank structures. Third, it provides practical implications for policymakers, waqf authorities, and Islamic financial institutions in designing sustainable Waqf Bank models suitable for Indonesia and other Muslim-majority countries.

By positioning Waqf Banks as an institutional bridge between Islamic philanthropy and sustainable finance, this study argues that the future development of Islamic social finance requires not only greater mobilisation of waqf resources but also stronger institutional innovation, governance integration, and regulatory alignment.

2. METHODS

This study employs a qualitative Systematic Literature Review (SLR) approach to examine the institutional architecture of Waqf Banks in Indonesia. Unlike conventional literature reviews, SLR provides a structured, transparent, and reproducible method for identifying, evaluating, and synthesising existing scholarly evidence within a specific research domain (Tranfield et al., 2003). The SLR approach was selected because research on Waqf Banks remains fragmented across various perspectives, including Islamic social finance, waqf governance, Islamic banking, institutional development, and regulatory frameworks. Therefore,

a systematic synthesis is required to identify common patterns, conceptual relationships, and research gaps related to Waqf Bank development.

The research design follows the systematic review principles proposed by Tranfield et al. (2003), which emphasise three major stages: planning the review, conducting the review, and reporting the findings. Furthermore, this study adopts the review guidance proposed by Snyder (2019), which highlights the importance of transparency in defining review objectives, literature selection criteria, data extraction procedures, and analytical processes. A systematic approach enables researchers to minimise subjective interpretation and develop a more reliable understanding of accumulated knowledge within a research field (Snyder, 2019; Tranfield et al., 2003).

The literature search was conducted using articles published in the Indonesian national journal database indexed by the Science and Technology Index (SINTA). The selection of SINTA-indexed publications was based on the objective of identifying scholarly discussions specifically related to Waqf Banks, waqf management, Islamic social finance, and institutional development within the Indonesian context.

The search process was conducted using several keywords and combinations, including “Waqf Bank”, “Bank Wakaf”, “Islamic social finance”, “cash waqf”, “waqf management”, “Islamic financial institution”, and “productive waqf”. The initial search identified 73 articles related to waqf and Islamic social finance. These articles were subsequently evaluated through a structured screening process based on predefined inclusion and exclusion criteria.

The literature selection process followed the PRISMA 2020 framework, consisting of identification, screening, eligibility assessment, and inclusion stages. Figure 1 illustrates the systematic process used to select the final studies included in the qualitative synthesis.

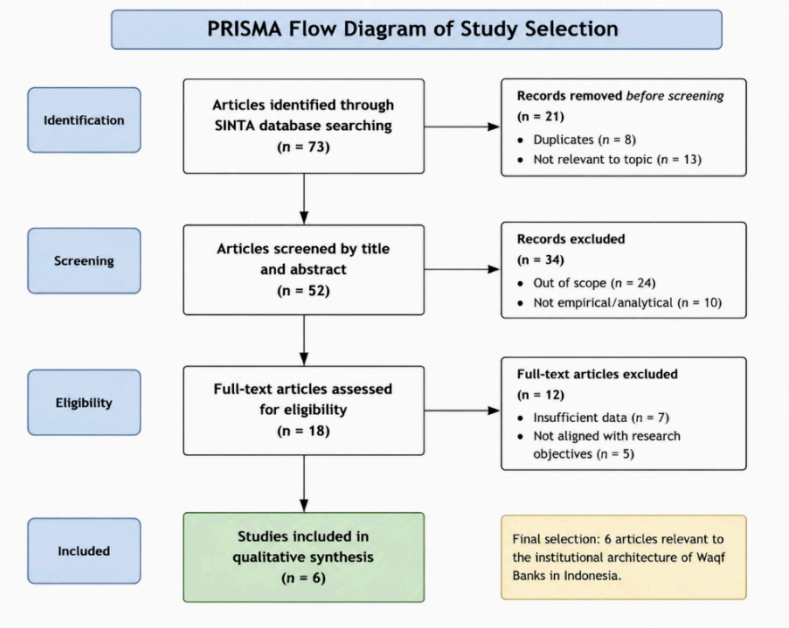


Fig 1. PRISMA Flow Diagram of Study Selection

The use of a structured search strategy is essential in SLR studies because it ensures that the selected literature represents relevant and scientifically justified evidence rather than arbitrary selection based on researcher preference (Snyder, 2019). The systematic review process also enables researchers to map the intellectual development of a field and identify areas requiring further investigation (Tranfield et al., 2003).

To ensure methodological consistency, this study established inclusion and exclusion criteria before conducting article selection. The inclusion criteria consisted of: (1) articles published in SINTA-indexed journals; (2) studies discussing waqf institutions, Islamic social finance, Waqf Banks, or related financial models; (3) articles focusing on institutional,

governance, operational, regulatory, or sustainability aspects; and (4) publications available in full-text format.

Meanwhile, articles were excluded when they: (1) only discussed general Islamic philanthropy without institutional relevance; (2) focused solely on religious perspectives without financial or governance analysis; (3) were duplicated publications; or (4) lacked sufficient methodological explanation and analytical contribution.

Following the screening and eligibility assessment, six articles were identified as the most relevant to the research objectives. These selected articles became the primary analytical sources for understanding the institutional architecture required for sustainable Waqf Bank development in Indonesia.

The selected articles were analysed using qualitative thematic analysis. Data extraction focused on several analytical dimensions derived from the research objectives, including institutional structure, ownership models, capital mobilisation, governance mechanisms, Shariah-compliant transaction systems, risk management, and regulatory frameworks.

Thematic analysis was conducted by identifying recurring concepts, similarities, differences, and emerging patterns across the selected studies. The extracted findings were then categorised into major themes representing the institutional requirements of Waqf Banks. This process allows fragmented findings from previous studies to be integrated into a broader conceptual framework.

Qualitative synthesis is particularly appropriate for interdisciplinary fields such as Islamic social finance because existing studies often employ different theoretical perspectives, methodologies, and institutional contexts. Through thematic interpretation, SLR enables researchers to generate new conceptual insights beyond individual studies (Snyder, 2019).

To enhance the reliability of the review process, this study maintained transparent documentation throughout the identification, screening, selection, and analysis stages. The selection process was conducted systematically to reduce researcher bias and ensure that the included studies were relevant to the research questions.

Furthermore, the reporting structure follows the Preferred Reporting Items for Systematic Reviews and Meta-Analyses (PRISMA) guidelines, which emphasise transparency in documenting the flow of literature selection and the justification for included studies (Page et al., 2021). The application of PRISMA principles strengthens methodological credibility by allowing readers to understand how the final evidence base was established.

Overall, the methodological approach enables this study to develop a comprehensive understanding of Waqf Bank institutional architecture by synthesising existing scholarly evidence. The findings generated from this SLR provide a conceptual foundation for designing sustainable Waqf Bank models that integrate waqf's social mission with the operational requirements of modern Islamic financial institutions.

3. RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS

The synthesis of the six selected studies reveals several key dimensions that shape the institutional architecture of Waqf Banks in Indonesia. The findings indicate that Waqf Bank development requires an integrated framework involving institutional structure, ownership models, capital mobilisation, Shariah-compliant transaction mechanisms, risk management, and regulatory support. These dimensions demonstrate that transforming waqf into a sustainable Islamic financial institution requires balancing its social mission with financial sustainability. Figure 2 presents the main findings from the selected literature and their alignment with the researcher's dissertation findings.

Figure 2. Key Findings from Selected Studies (n = 6)

Institutional Architecture of Waqf Banks in Indonesia

Institutional Dimension	Key Findings / Main Results	Author (Year)	Alignment with Dissertation Finding
1. Institutional Structure	• Waqf Banks require a hybrid institutional structure integrating social mission (waqf) and financial intermediation. • Clear institutional positioning is crucial to avoid regulatory ambiguity and overtapping roles.	Beik & Arsyianti (2019)	Supports the dissertation finding that the absence of a formal institutional structure creates uncertainty in operational functions and governance arrangements.
2. Ownership Structure	• Corporate, cooperative, or institutional ownership models are viable options. • Ownership clarity ensures accountability and preserves the waqf character.	Ascarya & Sakti (2022)	Supports the dissertation finding that ownership is one of the key factors in determining the **design of Waqf Banks**.
3. Capital Mobilisation	• Sustainable capital is the main determinant of Waqf Bank establishment and longevity. • Cash waqf, institutional investment, and government support are critical sources of capital.	Mannan (2018)	Supports the dissertation finding that capital contribution is the dominant element in Waqf Bank design.
4. Transaction Mechanisms	• Profit-and-loss sharing (*mudarabah*, *musyarakah*) is most suitable for productive waqf financing. • Shariah-compliant mechanisms ensure financial sustainability and social impact.	Khan & Ahmed (2011)	Supports the dissertation finding that transaction modes, particularly partnership-based mechanisms, are essential design elements.
5. Risk Management & Security	• Effective risk management is necessary to address moral hazard, operational risk, and information asymmetry. • Guarantee mechanisms and waqf-based collateral models are recommended.	Ahmed (2011)	Supports the dissertation finding that security and risk management are critical issues in the design of Waqf Banks.
6. Legal & Regulatory Framework	• Regulatory harmonisation between waqf law and banking law is crucial. • A specific legal basis for Waqf Banks will enhance institutional legitimacy.	Hassan & Lewis (2007)	Supports the dissertation finding that integration between banking regulation and waqf regulation is essential for Waqf Bank development.

Overall Synthesis Finding:
The development of Waqf Banks requires an integrated institutional architecture encompassing ownership, capital, transaction mechanisms, risk management, and regulatory framework to achieve sustainability and social impact.

Fig. 2. Key Findings from Selected Studies

3.1. Institutional Dimensions of Waqf Bank Development

The systematic literature review identified six relevant studies that provide significant insights into the institutional architecture of Waqf Banks in Indonesia. The synthesis of selected studies reveals that Waqf Bank development is not merely dependent on the availability of waqf funds but requires a comprehensive institutional framework involving governance, ownership, capital mobilisation, operational mechanisms, and regulatory legitimacy. The findings indicate that previous studies consistently emphasise the transformation of waqf from a traditional charitable instrument into a productive Islamic social finance institution.

The literature synthesis demonstrates that institutional structure represents the fundamental foundation for establishing Waqf Banks. A clear institutional structure determines the distribution of authority, accountability mechanisms, operational responsibilities, and stakeholder relationships. This finding supports the thesis's conceptual argument that the absence of a formal Waqf Bank structure creates uncertainty about operational functions, governance arrangements, and institutional sustainability. This finding is consistent with previous studies arguing that Islamic social finance institutions require professional governance systems to achieve both social objectives and organisational sustainability (Mohamed et al., 2019; Ascarya & Sakti, 2022).

However, the literature also presents different perspectives regarding the ideal institutional form of Waqf Banks. Some scholars argue that Waqf Banks should adopt a banking-based structure to maximise financial capacity and expand the number of beneficiaries. In contrast, others emphasise maintaining the social character of waqf institutions to prevent excessive commercialisation. This debate indicates that Waqf Banks require a hybrid institutional model that combines financial professionalism with a maqasid al-Shariah orientation. Similar arguments have been identified in Islamic social finance

research, where institutional hybridisation is considered essential to balance economic efficiency and social legitimacy (Ahmed et al., 2021).

3.2. Ownership Structure and Governance Mechanism

The second major theme identified from the reviewed literature concerns ownership structure. The findings indicate that ownership remains one of the most debated dimensions in Waqf Bank development because waqf fundamentally differs from conventional financial institutions. In conventional banking, ownership is associated with shareholder rights and profit expectations, whereas waqf is characterised by permanence, public benefit, and social responsibility.

The reviewed studies suggest that corporate, cooperative, or institutional ownership models may offer alternative solutions for Waqf Bank governance. This finding supports the thesis that ownership clarity is essential, as unclear ownership arrangements can create regulatory uncertainty and operational challenges. Nevertheless, some scholars argue that excessive corporate orientation may weaken the philanthropic nature of waqf by prioritising financial returns over social objectives. Therefore, ownership design should focus on accountability rather than merely capital control.

This finding is supported by the Islamic finance literature, which highlights that governance mechanisms in Islamic financial institutions must integrate stakeholder accountability, Shariah compliance, and social responsibility (Dusuki & Abdullah, 2007; Hasan, 2018). Therefore, Waqf Banks require a governance framework that differs from that of conventional shareholder-based institutions by incorporating waqifs, beneficiaries, regulators, and Shariah supervisory bodies.

3.3. Capital Mobilisation and Financial Sustainability

Capital mobilisation emerged as the most dominant theme within the reviewed literature. The findings indicate that sustainable capital sources represent the critical determinant of Waqf Bank establishment and operational continuity. The literature identifies cash waqf, institutional investment, government support, and corporate contributions as potential sources of capital.

This finding strongly supports the thesis that capital contribution is the dominant element in Waqf Bank design, as the availability, ownership, and management of capital determine institutional capacity. However, the literature also highlights challenges related to maintaining the perpetual nature of waqf while applying investment-oriented financial mechanisms.

Previous studies have shown that cash waqf can become a sustainable financial instrument when managed through professional investment mechanisms while preserving the endowment's principal value (Mannan, 2018). This perspective is supported by research demonstrating that productive waqf models can enhance socioeconomic development when supported by effective governance and investment strategies (Hassan et al., 2020). Nevertheless, other studies caution that the financialisation of waqf may lead to mission drift if economic objectives dominate social objectives (Ismail et al., 2021).

3.4. Shariah-Compliant Transaction Mechanisms and Risk Management

The literature review indicates that transaction mechanisms represent another important dimension influencing Waqf Bank sustainability. The reviewed studies identify contracts such as qard al-hasan, mudarabah, murabahah, and musyarakah as potential operational mechanisms. These contracts enable Waqf Banks to provide financing while maintaining compliance with Islamic principles.

This finding aligns with the thesis argument that transaction modes, particularly partnership-based mechanisms such as musyarakah, are important determinants of Waqf Bank

operational schemes. However, some studies argue that profit-sharing mechanisms may increase operational complexity due to monitoring requirements and asymmetric information.

Research on Islamic financial institutions indicates that effective risk management is essential because Shariah-based financing faces unique challenges related to moral hazard, information asymmetry, and operational risks (Ahmed, 2011; Khan & Ahmed, 2001). Therefore, Waqf Banks require robust risk management frameworks that combine Islamic ethical principles with modern financial governance practices.

3.5. Regulatory Framework and Institutional Legitimacy

The final theme identified from the literature concerns regulatory harmonisation. The findings reveal that regulatory uncertainty remains one of the main barriers to establishing Waqf Banks in Indonesia. The institutional position of Waqf Banks between waqf institutions and banking institutions creates regulatory complexity involving multiple authorities.

This finding supports previous arguments that Islamic social finance institutions require supportive regulatory ecosystems to achieve institutional legitimacy and operational effectiveness. The thesis also highlights that integrating banking and waqf regulation is essential to the development of Waqf Banks.

Nevertheless, some literature suggests that excessive regulation may reduce institutional flexibility and innovation. Therefore, regulatory frameworks should provide sufficient supervision while allowing institutional adaptation. Studies on Islamic social finance governance emphasise that effective regulation should balance accountability, transparency, and the capacity for innovation (Karim et al., 2020; Hassan & Lewis, 2007).

Overall, the findings demonstrate that Waqf Banks should be understood as hybrid Islamic social finance institutions that require integration of social mission and financial sustainability. The literature synthesis confirms that institutional architecture, governance, capital, transactions, risk management, and regulation are interconnected elements determining successful Waqf Bank development in Indonesia.

4. CONCLUSION

This study reimagines Islamic social finance by examining the institutional architecture of Waqf Banks in Indonesia through a qualitative Systematic Literature Review (SLR). Based on a synthesis of six selected studies from 73 SINTA-indexed articles, the findings demonstrate that establishing Waqf Banks requires a comprehensive institutional framework rather than merely the availability of waqf funds. Six critical dimensions were identified, including institutional structure, ownership model, capital mobilisation, Shariah-compliant transaction mechanisms, risk management, and regulatory framework. Among these dimensions, capital mobilisation emerges as a dominant factor, as sustainable capital underpins institutional capacity, operational continuity, and the ability to generate social impact. However, capital effectiveness depends on the existence of clear governance, appropriate ownership arrangements, effective risk management, and regulatory legitimacy.

Theoretically, this study contributes to Islamic social finance literature by extending the understanding of waqf from a traditional charitable instrument towards a sustainable institutional mechanism for economic development. The findings highlight that Waqf Banks represent a hybrid institutional model that combines the social mission of waqf with the operational requirements of modern Islamic finance. This perspective contributes to the development of institutional theory in Islamic social finance by demonstrating the importance of balancing social legitimacy, Shariah principles, and financial sustainability. The study also emphasises that Waqf Bank governance requires a multi-stakeholder approach involving waqif, beneficiaries, Islamic financial institutions, regulators, and Shariah supervisory bodies.

From a practical perspective, the findings provide important implications for policymakers, waqf authorities, and Islamic financial institutions. The development of Waqf

Banks requires regulatory harmonisation between waqf law and Islamic banking regulations to provide institutional certainty and public trust. Furthermore, waqf institutions need to strengthen professional governance, transparency, accountability, and human resource capacity. Islamic financial institutions may utilise Shariah-compliant financing mechanisms, such as musyarakah and mudarabah, to design operational models that balance financial sustainability with social empowerment objectives. Therefore, collaboration among government institutions, financial organisations, academic communities, and society is essential to transform waqf assets into productive instruments for inclusive economic development.

This study has several limitations. First, the review focused primarily on SINTA-indexed Indonesian publications, which may limit the inclusion of broader international perspectives on Waqf Bank development. Second, only six studies were selected from the initial 73 articles, reflecting the limited number of publications specifically addressing Waqf Bank institutional architecture. Third, the study relies on secondary literature and qualitative synthesis; therefore, further empirical validation is required. Future research should incorporate Scopus- and Web of Science-indexed studies, conduct comparative analyses with countries such as Malaysia, Turkey, and Bangladesh, and empirically examine different ownership structures, capital models, governance mechanisms, and digital transformation strategies to develop sustainable Waqf Banks.

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