The Contribution of Waqf Forests on Sustainable Development Goals

Ayif Fathurrahman1(*), Rahmawati2)
1,2 Faculty of Economics and Bussines, Universitas Muhammadiyah Yogyakarta
*Email correspondence: ayif.fathurrahman@umy.ac.id

Abstract

Forest Waqf is one of the efforts to help achieve the goals of Islamic economics. Therefore, this paper aims to; first, describe how the establishment of Bogor Forest Waqf. Second, describe the role of Bogor Waqf Forest towards Sustainable Development Goals number 1 (no poverty), and third describe the role of Bogor Waqf Forest number 6 (cleanwater and sanitation). The data for this study was collected in the field using a qualitative approach with observation, deep interview, and documentation technique. The results of this study show that the establishment of the Bogor Waqf Forest is an idea and a breakthrough in overcoming the rampant problem of forest destruction that occurs. Then, the Bogor Waqf Forest carries out various community empowerment efforts that are aligned with efforts to preserve the forest for the community around the Waqf forest. In addition, making water reservoirs and distributing clean water to areas around the forest that are useful needs of people living around the forest. Hence, the impact of Bogor Waqf Forest affected to the local people’s activity and in the distribution of clean water.

Keywords: Forest Waqf, Productive Waqf, SDGs, Sustainable

Abstrak

Wakaf hutan merupakan salah satu upaya untuk membantu tercapainya tujuan ekonomi Islam. Oleh karena itu, tulisan ini bertujuan untuk: mendeskripsikan bagaimana pembentukan Wakaf Hutan Bogor, mendeskripsikan peran Hutan Wakaf Bogor terhadap Sustainable Development Goals nomor 1 (tanpa kemiskinan) dan nomor 6 (air bersih dan sanitasi). Data dalam penelitian ini dikumpulkan di lapangan dengan menggunakan pendekatan kualitatif dengan teknik observasi, wawancara mendalam, dan dokumentasi. Hasil penelitian ini menunjukkan bahwa pembentukan Hutan Wakaf Bogor merupakan sebuah ide dan terobosan dalam mengatasi masalah perusakan hutan yang terjadi. Kemudian, Hutan Wakaf Bogor melakukan berbagai upaya pemberdayaan masyarakat yang diselaraskan dengan upaya pelestarian hutan bagi masyarakat sekitar hutan wakaf. Selain itu pembuatan tempat penampungan air dan pendistribusian air bersih ke daerah sekitar hutan yang berguna untuk kebutuhan masyarakat yang tinggal di sekitar hutan. Oleh karena itu, dampak Hutan Wakaf Bogor berdampak pada aktivitas masyarakat dan distribusi air bersih.

Kata kunci: Wakaf Hutan, Wakaf Produktif, SDGs, Hutan Wakaf Bogor, Berkelanjutan


DOI: http://dx.doi.org/10.29040/jiei.v9i3.10606

1. INTRODUCTION

Islam is a universal religion that governs every aspect of human life. Islam has rules and foundations of faith for Muslims, from minor details to major issues (Tijani, 2015). In Islam, there are many rules with the goal of benefiting humanity. "In terms of economics, for example, the purpose of economics in Islam is essentially to create a safe and prosperous society” (Sohrah, 2014). Waqf as a source of funds with the potential to develop the economy. Waqf is an Islamic economic effort that contributes to the well-being of Muslims.

Waqf is one of the efforts to help achieve the goals of Islamic economics. The presence of waqf can serve several functions, such as religion, which focuses on da’wah, or in social matters, which focuses
on community empowerment, both of which have an impact on the economy. *Waqf* is a sunnah worship that serves as a vertical adhesive for relationships with Allah SWT and a horizontal adhesive for relationships with fellow humans.

_Waqf_ is an Islamic economic institution with development potential. However, in Indonesia, the management of waqf and the development of waqf havenot been optimally managed (Syadali, et.al. 2023) Data from the Indonesian Ministry of Religion's Waqf Information System (SIWAK) show that the potential for waqf land in Indonesia reaches 414,829 locations with a total area of 55,259.87 hectares. Badan Wakaf Indonesia (BWI) concludes that the collection of waqf has not been maximized, as evidenced by the number of Muslims in Indonesia, the amount of waqf collected, which is worth Rp. 225 billion, and the potential value of waqf, which is Rp. 77 trillion, indicating that the magnitude of the potential for waqf has not been properly optimized. The public's understanding influenced the collection of waqf money. As a result, efforts to develop and optimize waqf are carried out on a continuous basis, studied, and implemented (Hazami, 2016).

![Figure1.1 Use of Waqf Land](image-url)

In Indonesia, the management of *waqf* is still dominated by mosques or prayer rooms, as shown in figure 1, where the number of mosques dominates around 43.79% and prayer rooms are 28%, while others are less than 20%, such as schools 10.75%, cemeteries 4.39%, Islamic boarding schools 3.92%, and other social institutions 9.15%. This means that the majority of *waqf* in Indonesia is still silent or immobile and is not managed productively. In fact, if it is managed productively, it will generate monetary profits, the proceeds of which can be used for other purposes (Muntaqo, 2015; Lubis et al., 2022). Cash *waqf* or productive *waqf* based on entrepreneurship is one of the *waqf* programs, which can foster the value of eternity, benefit, and the integrity of Islamic business (Nasution, 2016).

On August 23, 2017, at the 2nd Annual Islamic Finance Conference in Yogyakarta, the Minister of Finance of the Republic of Indonesia, Sri Mulyani said that "Sharia finance is considered to be able to encourage Sustainable Development Goals". *Waqf* is one of the Islamic financings that can be administered. Moreover, the practice of *waqf* is increasingly widespread, everyone flocks to carry out *waqf* worship. *Waqf* is a form of *amal jariyah*, where the reward will continue to flow even though the person who has been *waqf* (*Wakif*) has died.

*Waqf* has demonstrated in the past that its role has been to support the government's fiscal policy by relieving its citizens of their reliance on the government. As have Muslim countries around the world, including Bangladesh, Egypt, Malaysia, Saudi Arabia, Turkey, and Jordan, which have made *waqf* assets one of the instruments of state income for poverty alleviation (Suhairi, 2015; Munawar, 2020). *Waqf* has the chance of growing in Indonesia because it distributes the range of mobilization much more evenly to the community (Rinawati, 2021).

Initially, however, the focus was solely on restoring poverty. However, with the emergence of more complex problems, the *waqf* program may be able to assist in the resolution of new problems. As a result, the presence of *waqf* administration may have a greater impact on The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) are a plan agreed upon by world leaders that includes 17 goals and 169 targets that are expected to be met by 2030. The SDGs can be achieved with the use of forest or green *waqf*.

It is common knowledge that if Indonesia is known as the world's lungs, the forest in Indonesia is the world's third largest tropical rain forest. (Margono, et.al., 2016). In fact, Indonesia is one of the few countries where each province has its own forest area, with a total forest area of 95.6 million hectares in 2020 (Ministry of Environment and Forestry of the Republic of Indonesia). Deforestation in Indonesia has decreased by 75.03% (Margono, et.al., 2016). Forests serve various purposes depending on the stage of economic development, whereas in the past, forest was a free good. At this point, the forest serves as a food source. People began to learn how to grow crops as the population grew Sanjaya (2020). In the context of the SDGs, the forest, that also is one of most crucial ecosystems on the planet, can generate not only income for people (supporting SDG 1 (no poverty)),
but also food and medicine (supporting SDGs 2 (zero hunger) and 3 (good health and well-being). Forests could provide freshwater, keep the earth’s temperature stable (supporting SDGs 6 (clean water and sanitation) and 13 (climate action)), and protect biodiversity sources (helping SDGs number 15 (life on land)) (Sulistiani, 2017).

Unfortunately, deforestation is a persistent issue in Indonesia. This is demonstrated by Figure 2, which depicts data on deforestation from 2016 to 2021. Deforestation that occurs every year, of course, causes a great deal of loss, not only socio-cultural and political losses, but also economic and ecological losses. P4W CRESTPENT (2020). For example, global warming has visible effects such as erratic weather, and the earth's temperature is rising. If the current hot climate persists, melting mountain glaciers and ice sheets in Antarctica are expected to increase the volume of the ocean, inundating islands and low-lying areas. Other likely impact, Global warming has the potential to alter biological systems. Such as biodiversity of plants, animals, and other forms of life. Adaptation to long-term seasonal climate patterns has established the based on geographical ranges of plant and animal species (Kwasi, 2014). Because global warming affects these patterns on much shorter timescales than natural climate variability did in the past, relatively abrupt climatic changes may put many species’ natural adaptive capacity to the test. A large number of plant and animal species are likely to be threatened with extinction (Britannica, 2022).

However, efforts to restore forests were also made by many parties, including the German government, which donated 4.2 million hectares to be managed by the community. This is done so that the community can implement sustainable forest management, which will eventually improve the ecosystem and the local community's livelihoods. Furthermore, forest restoration efforts aim to slow global warming and contribute to the SDGs' goals (Carr, et al., 2021) There are also those governed by Sharia law. Take, for example, Bogor's Waqf Forest. The Bogor Waqf Forest arose from an idea about forest waqf written by Ali (2021) on the online media sharianews.com in August 2018. In response to the article, a wakif decided to set aside 1500 m² of land for forest development. The waqf land is located in Muara 1 Village, Cibunian Village, Bogor Regency, West Java. As a result of this, the Bogor Waqf Forest Community was established in January 2019 under the auspices of the Yassiru Foundation to further promote the concept of waqf forests. Bogor Waqf Forest was able to collect a number of waqf funds by using the money used to acquire the second waqf forest land 1200 m in June 2019 and the third waqf forest land 38320m in July 2020.

From Hutan Waqf, Bogor that managed by waqf forest. They concerning on Ecology, Economy, Education, Da’wah, Humanity and research.

Waqf funds obtained from the Bogor Waqf Forest in 2021 received approximately Rp. 361,778,930.31. The funds were distributed to Ecology 38.42 percent or Rp. 138,994,750.00, humanity 2.86%, economy 27.11%, education 26.72%, and Nazhir 4.89%. (Anwar, 2022). Along with the benefits received by waqf recipients, the people around them will be more prosperous. Written in the Law of the Republic of Indonesia No. 41 of 2004 concerning Waqf and PP No. 42/2006, which is directed that the empowerment of waqf is one of the instruments in building the socio-economic life of Moslems (Anwar, 2022). In the new law, the author can draw the conclusion that waqf can include immovable property as well as movable prices (Sulistiani, 2017). Waqf benefits are defined as extensible, and they can be used to address social needs and emergencies. The natural environment is one of the awqaf's beneficiaries, hutan waqf it can be sustainable for ecology such as springs, carbon sequestration, and home for animal.
Previous studies on green waqf have mostly focused on the potential for forest preservation, and there are still few studies that discuss waqf’s role in the SDGs. Based on the concerns raised above and previous research. The author is interested in writing a piece titled "Bogor Forest Waqf’s Contribution to SDGs.”

2. METHOD

The data for this study was collected in the field using a qualitative approach. Field research is a problem-solving procedure that is investigated by describing or trying to describe the state of both the subject or object of research at the time of data collection based on the existing facts, which means that it is carried out by conducting interviews with predetermined samples and field observations. Qualitative research does not always aim to find the cause and effect of something happening, but rather to understand certain situations in order to arrive at an objective conclusion. Qualitative paper aims to explore and break through the symptoms by trying to interpret the problem or concluding a combination of various problems presented by the situation. In the process, this research does not use statistical procedures or other calculation methods.

Location and Subjects of Research

Primary data retrieval was carried out in the Bogor Waqf Forest, specifically in Cibunian village, Pamijahan, Bogor Regency, West Java. The location is the Bogor Waqf Forest, which covers an area of 41,020m². Meanwhile, the research subjects are the manager and local residents who receive the direct impact of the Bogor waqf forest.

3. RESULT AND DISCUSSION

3.1 Contribution of Waqf Forest toward SDG 1 (No poverty)

In order to determine no poverty, the researcher investigates what welfare entails. In this case, the researcher examines and explains whether waqf forests benefit the local community. The existence of the Bogor Waqf Forest in an effort to reduce poverty in the community around the forest economically. The Bogor Waqf Forest carries out various community empowerment efforts that are aligned with efforts to preserve the forest for the community around the waqf forest, as the results of interviews related to community empowerment around the Bogor Waqf Forest, namely:


(14 June 2022, Man, 31 years old)

“Untuk hutan wakaf zona 1, itu ada tiga kelompok, kelompok ikatan, kelompok lebah, dan kelompok warung. Sedangkan untuk kegiatan dakwah, seperti pengajian itu, lakukan setiap hari jumat sehabis sholat jum'at di saung saung. Sedangkan, hutan Wakaf zona dua, karena mereka terfokus hanya ke ekowisata, mereka tinggal di lokasi, biasanya di akhir pekan ya, ketika ada pengunjung, yang biasanya sewa saung untuk kegiatan kegiatan, Tapi, informasi yang terakhir, hutan wakaf zona satu mengagas agroforestry, atau konsep bertani di hutan. Hal ini dilakukan, karena hutan kita belum tinggi pohonya.”

(14 June 2022, Man, 31 years old)


(15 June 2022, Woman, 51)

Based on the results of interviews that have been submitted by their informants, it is known that there are various community empowerment programs in an effort to alleviate poverty in the community around the Bogor Waqf Forest, namely by utilizing the potential location of the waqf forest as a source of economic and community income. Various local community empowerment activities carried out in the Bogor Waqf Forest area, which can be seen in the Zone 1 Waqf Forest area, were the development of fish cultivation, bee cultivation, development of agroforestry farming systems (a combination of agricultural crops with forestry) and stall businesses managed by the Bogor
Waqf Forest foundation, by empowering the surrounding community, as well as in the Waqf Forest area in Zone 2, namely the concept of ecotourism by renting huts to visitors with these empowerment programs so that they can open up business opportunities and become a source of livelihood for communities around the forest.

Efforts to manage the Bogor Waqf Forest as a source of livelihood for the community around the forest, the management of the Bogor Waqf Forest Foundation always strives to develop empowerment programs so that each program is carried out can be truly beneficial in improving the welfare of the surrounding community, namely poverty alleviation can be achieved, as seen from the efforts the management of the Bogor Waqf Forest Foundation in holding meetings in the preparation of program planning and evaluation of program achievements which are carried out regularly every week both online and offline, meaning that the management of the Bogor Waqf Forest Foundation always maximizes efforts in carrying out its programs.

The impact felt by the community around the Bogor Waqf Forest from the management of the Waqf Forest in improving the welfare of the community around the forest is as the results of interviews conveyed by informants in this study:

“Dulu kan, tempat di sini hutan belantara ya, berkat adanya hutan wakaf ini jadi rame dan ada lampu penerangan. Ekonomi juga terbantu, itu, di situ (di hutan wakaf bogor zona dua) adanya warung kan juga menjadi lapangan pekerjaan bagi orang-orang.”
(15 June 2022, Man, 45 years old)

“Warga setempat masih bisa mengambil suatu bagian yang perlukan, contohnya seperti kelaut ada yang mau ambil daun kelapa buat bikin sapu, kita perbolehkan. Jadi, warga masih bisa merasakan manfaatnya, meskipun bukan tanah warga lagi.”
(15 June 2022, Man, 45 years old)

“...Kalau dari segi ekonomi, ngak banyak si neng. Soalnya kan belum pernah panen, paling kalau ada orang nginep di saung aja sih, kita dapat terus nanti di taruh ke uang kas buat warung dan di bagi-bagian ke anggota. Adanya hutan wakaf ini termasuk mensejahterakan masyarakat sekitar...”
(16 June 2022, Woman, 51 years old)

“...Tapi ya, itu, ngelola hutan wakaf kan ngga di bayar, jadi harus pnyakerjaan tetap untuk sehari-hari buat makan, buat nyukupin kebutuhan. Di sini kan ada warung, kadang kalau banyak pengunjung juga belum tentu masuk uang kas kan. Karena, uangnya nanti di puterin lagi buat modal.”
(16 June 2022, Man, 60 years old)

Based on the results of interviews submitted by the informants and the database above, the direct impact felt by the community from the management of the BogorWaqf Forest, namely the livelihoods of the area around the forest became more crowded because there were sources of community livelihoods and the forest area that was originally just a wilderness has now become a forest that can prosper the community in terms of This opens up job opportunities/sources of livelihood, lighting, and forest products can be utilized by the surrounding community. And the percentage of poverty before forest waqf was established decreased around 0.48% from 2018 to 2019.

Improving progress and public welfare without violating Shari’a is one of the objectives of productive waqf administration. The management of productive waqf carried out by YNHS in reducing poverty is supported by the findings of Anas' research (2016), which show that the community's economy is distributed fairly through opening up work opportunities and giving the community skills.

Waqf forests that are managed with the intention of reducing poverty for the surrounding communities are developing into a valuable resource as a source of food, building materials, and other household necessities. They can also provide a platform for the community to engage in entrepreneurship. According to a study on the integration of waqf and forest with an economic and social approach without ignoring the environmental factor, Bogor Waqf Forest Management is in accordance with the synergy of waqf and social forestry in alleviating poverty. In order to achieve poverty alleviation in forest areas, it is also important to plan for inequality and competition in the management of forest resources and to help local communities build their ability before and during waqf and social forestry management (Maulana, 2021).
3.2 Contribution of Waqf Forest Toward SDG 6 (Water and Sanitation)

According to data from the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), nearly a third of the world's major cities rely heavily on forests for their clean water supply, making this one of the ways that forests enhance human life. Protected as a source of drinking water for about 238 million people in these cities, forests play a significant role in supplying clean water for human life, which is required for everything from bathing, washing, and agriculture to drinking water. As a result, managing clean water from forests has economic potential for enhancing the welfare of communities nearby. The Bogor Waqf Forest Foundation, one of the Bogor Waqf Forest management programs in providing clean water for the community, manages clean water for communities surrounding the forest and the general public by building clean water tanks and distributing water for the surrounding communities. This is done as one of the benefits of forests in providing clean water for life. One of the efforts made by the Bogor Waqf Forest Foundation is to collaborate with various parties, such as higher education institutions, social institutions, and individuals, in order to implement forest land management programs. This is done in order to manage clean water in the Bogor Waqf Forest. The impact of clean water management in Bogor Waqf Forest as the results of interviews submitted by informants are:

“Air di hutan wakaf zona satu tergolong bersih dan bisa langsung di minum, tapi orang sini kan ga mau minum air mentah. Bahkan, sumber air di rumahsaya juga dari gunung”

(14 June 2022, Man, 44 years old)

“...bisa di katakan aliran air hutan wakaf zona dua yang tadinya jauh sulitid jangkau yang mana jaraknya 200m menjadi 80m berkat adanya hutan wakaf ini...”

(14 June 2022, Man, 31 years old)

“Kalau di hutan wakaf zona satu ini, airnya melimpah kan, karena air yangmelimpah ini kita maksimalkan manfaatnya, buatlah kolam ikan, untuk budidaya.”

(16 June 2022, Man, 60 years old)

Based on the findings of interviews with informants, the Bogor Waqf Forest's contribution to providing clean water is directly felt by the community around the forest, specifically the presence of clean water sources in this waqf forest that provide infrastructure so that the water discharge is more in line with the needs of people living around the forest, such as drinking water. In addition, the Bogor Waqf Forest's sufficient water supply for drinking, cooking, and other daily needs, the community may find it advantageous to use the water for fish farming, which will provide the locals with a source of income. The water in the waqf forest comes directly from the mountain, where it still contains a variety of minerals and can be consumed uncooked. This waqf forest's presence supplies the infrastructure that brings the water flow closer, from 200 meters to 80 meters. Fish farming, of course, makes use of the plentiful water supply. Researchers also made direct observations of the water there. Which, the researcher uses Physical parameters from Kemenkes No. 907/KEMENKES/SK/VII/2010:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No</th>
<th>The condition of water</th>
<th>Yes</th>
<th>No</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>Clean and not cloudy</td>
<td>√</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>Transparent or colorless</td>
<td>√</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.</td>
<td>No Smell</td>
<td>√</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.</td>
<td>Has Temperature between 10-25°C</td>
<td>√</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.</td>
<td>Leaves no sediment</td>
<td>√</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In line with Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) point 6 that one of the points in the environmental sector is to ensure that the community achieves universal access to clean water and sanitation, Bogor Waqf Forest Management provides clean water and sanitation for communities nearby the forest in order to improve community welfare (Bapenas.go.id). Nearly 65% of Indonesia's river water is extremely polluted, according to a 2015 assessment by the Ministry of Environment and Forestry's Directorate General of Pollution and Environmental Damage Control (KLHK), as cited by National Geographic Indonesia (2016). So that with the management of clean water and sanitation carried out by the Bogor Waqf Forest Foundation, it can be cloudy in the realization of the SDGs targets.

Clean water treatment is a technical effort made to protect water resources by improving the quality of water sources to achieve the required quality with the intention of making it safer for consumption by the community.
4. CONCLUSION

Based on the findings of the preceding chapter's analysis, research, and discussion of the Contribution of Waqf Forest to SDG 1 and 6 (Study case: Waqf Forest Bogor, West Java), the following conclusions can be drawn.

The establishment of the Bogor Waqf Forest is an idea and a breakthrough in overcoming the rampant problem of forest destruction that occurs, the formation of the Bogor Waqf Forest, which begins with the handing over of a forest plot of land with an area of 1500 m² by the waqif which becomes the first waqf forest land, then fundraising is carried out by the Yassirra Foundation and the results of the collected funds obtained a second waqf forest land of 1200 m², a third waqf forest land of 3830 m², a fourth waqf forest land of 1000 m², and a fifth waqf forest land of 2000 m².

The role of the Bogor Waqf Forest in alleviating poverty is carried out by empowering communities around the forest by utilizing the potential of the waqf forest location as a source of income and community livelihoods, including fish cultivation programs, bee cultivation, agroforestry farming system development, food stalls, ecotourism development with rental of huts, and forest products that can be utilized by local communities.

The role of the Bogor Waqf Forest in the availability of clean water and sanitation is the management of clean water from the Bogor Waqf Forest Foundation by making water reservoirs and distributing clean water to areas around the forest that are useful for drinking water needs and the needs of people living around the forest and can be used for cultivation, fish as a source of livelihood for the community around the Bogor waqf forest. Furthermore, clean water is available in the waqf forest area in accordance with the Minister of Health Regulation No. 907/MENKES/SK/VII/2010 through the Physical Parameters test.

Recommendation

Based on conclusion that have been explained, there are several recommendations regarding the contribution of Waqf Forest to SDG 1 and 6 can be made based on the conclusions that have been described (Case study: Waqf Forest Bogor, West Java). This suggestion is intended to address the study's limitations. Recommendations include the following:

a. More Key Informants should be used in future research to improve data accuracy (reliable data).
b. Conducting long-term research in order to detect and assess changes in Key Informant behavior and condition as they occur.
c. For future research, a combination of qualitative and quantitative approaches will be more suitable.

5. REFERENCES


SIWAK. (2021). "Potensi Wakaf". SIWAK. Accesed september, 29 2022


