

OPTIMIZING THE ROLE OF PRODUCTIVE WAKAF IN PESANTREN IN SUPPORTING THE ACHIEVEMENT OF SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS (SDGs): CASE STUDY OF PESANTREN X PURWOKERTO

Aulia Hilda Pertiwi^{1*}, Dewi Susilowati²

¹Master of Science in Accounting, Jenderal Soedirman University, Indonesian

²Faculty of Economic & Business, Jenderal Soedirman University, Indonesian

*Email corresponding author: aulia.pertiwi@mhs.unsoed.ac.id

Abstract

As a traditional Islamic educational institution, Pesantren has excellent potential to contribute to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). With its sustainable characteristics and orientation towards socio-economic benefits, productive waqf can be a strategic instrument to empower pesantren and expand its impact. This article aims to analyze the potential for optimizing the role of productive waqf in pesantren to support various dimensions of the SDGs. Through a literature review and potential analysis based on identified research trends (e.g., VOSviewer analysis), this article identifies opportunities and challenges in integrating productive waqf into pesantren programs that align with the global development agenda. This article can provide insights for stakeholders in formulating effective policies and strategies to maximize the contribution of pesantren through productive waqf, thereby achieving the SDGs.

Keywords: Productive Waqf, Islamic Boarding Schools, Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs),

INTRODUCTION

At present, the achievement of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) is a primary agenda that is very urgent, especially for Indonesia as a country with the largest Muslim population in the world. The SDGs, formulated by the United Nations, include 17 interrelated main goals to address various global challenges, including “No Poverty (goal 1), No Hunger (goal 2), Healthy and Prosperous Life (goal 3), Quality Education (goal 4), Gender Equality (goal 5), Clean Water and Sanitation (goal 6), Clean and Affordable Energy (goal 7), Decent Work and Economic Growth (goal 8), Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure (goal 9), Reduced Inequality (goal 10), Sustainable Cities and Settlements (goal 11), Responsible Consumption and Production (goal 12) Addressing Climate Change (goal 13), Marine Ecosystems (goal 14), Terrestrial Ecosystems (goal 15), Peace, Justice and Resilient Institutions (goal 16), Partnerships to Achieve the Goals (goal 17)” (Mukorrobah, 2025).

In terms of education quality, Indonesia ranks tenth out of fourteen developing nations globally in UNESCO's 2016 Global Education Monitoring (GEM) Report. In order to reach the Golden Indonesia 2045 goal through the SDGs, Islamic boarding schools are crucial to enhancing the standard of education in Indonesia. Pesantren are Islamic schools that provide students with a solid religious foundation while simultaneously meeting the modern need for an up-to-date, relevant education (Redaksi, 2024). Here, Islamic educational institutions, particularly pesantren, can play a role in promoting the attainment of multiple SDGs, particularly in the areas of health, education, and community economic empowerment, via efficient waqf administration (Rianti & Munawar, n.d.).

Waqf plays a strategic role in funding the implementation of the SDGs (Sukmana, 2020). Since the time of the Prophet Muhammad, waqf has been used to establish schools, madrasas, and universities as well as provide scholarships. The advantage of waqf lies in its sustainable nature, where waqf assets are maintained while the proceeds can be utilized for educational purposes (Demeunier, 2018). In Indonesia, waqf is increasingly emerging as a more inclusive alternative to

education financing. A productive waqf, for example, enables waqf assets to be managed economically, allowing the proceeds to be used to build schools, universities, and provide scholarships for students in need Wakaf, (Mulia, 2024).

Waqf contributes to social and economic enrichment by funding projects such as skills training centers. This enhances individual capabilities, opens up employment opportunities, and fosters an environment conducive to the intellectual development of society's professional fiber. In addition to directly supporting education, waqf contributes to strengthening the social and sustainable ecosystem (Lahuri *et al.*, n.d.). Thus, waqf is not only a stable source of funding but also helps equalize access to education for people from all economic strata (Karmanto, 2023).

Pesantren, as a traditional Islamic educational institution, plays a dual role, serving as a center of religious education. It acts as an agent of social change within the surrounding community. There is considerable research on the role of pesantren in socio-economic development in Indonesia. Research by Zamroni (2011) in his study highlighted the contribution of pesantren in empowering local communities. Wahyudi and Suhendra (2019) argued that pesantren have strategic potential in developing a community-based economy of creative economic activities and micro-enterprises. This approach aims to foster financial independence while reducing community reliance on traditional economic resources. The success of pesantren in carrying out this dual role is highly dependent on the synergy between education, Islamic education, financial skills training, and strategic partnerships with various stakeholders.

This article aims to comprehensively explore the potential for optimizing the role of productive waqf in pesantren in supporting the various dimensions of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Taking into account the theme of this research identified through the VOS viewer analysis, this article will identify concrete opportunities, analyze the challenges that may be faced in its implementation, and ultimately offer constructive recommendations for stakeholders including pesantren managers, waqf nazirs, government, and civil society organizations in formulating effective policies and strategies to maximize the contribution of pesantren through productive waqf mechanisms to the achievement of SDGs in Indonesia.

RESEARCH METHODS

This research employs a quantitative approach, utilizing the VOSviewer application as its primary method. The bibliometric method is used to get an overview of various collections of documents, as well as scientific articles (Sudirman & Lestari, n.d.). The bibliometric method is a quantitative method used to identify, measure, and map patterns of scientific publications, author collaboration, and the main themes that develop in a field of research through document metadata analysis, such as titles, abstracts, keywords, and references (Ullah *et al.*, 2023).

The article review process involves several stages, beginning from article search, topic mapping, study topic analysis, and conceptualization, as illustrated in Figure 1.

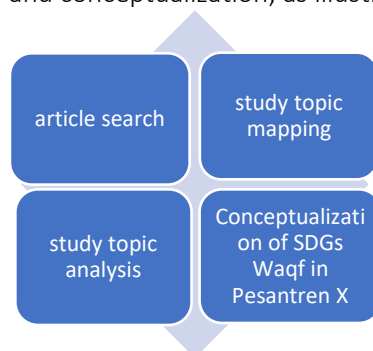


Figure 1. Diagram of the

Literature Review Process

Based on Figure 1, the article review process begins with searching for documents or articles from various journals. The search was conducted using the Scopus database, where keywords related to “Pesantren Waqf for Sustainable Development Goals” were entered. The author's article search year was then limited to 2020-2025. The data for this study were collected from the Scopus database, Sinta. The data collection process involved a systematic search using relevant keywords. The main keywords used were “Waqf,” “Sustainable Development Goals,” “Bibliometrics,” and “Pesantren.”

The bibliographic data collected will be analyzed using bibliometric methods to reveal the structure and dynamics of the research. This analysis employs several primary techniques, including bibliometric descriptive analysis, citation analysis, co-keyword analysis, co-author analysis, and co-citation analysis. To conduct a bibliometric analysis, this research will utilize specialized software such as VOSviewer. This software allows visualization of complex bibliometric networks.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Overview of the Research Topic Network

A keyword occurrence map (as shown by VOSViewer) displays a collection of keywords that frequently co-occur in scientific publications. These keywords are grouped into clusters, each marked with a different color, indicating distinct but related topics or research areas. The size of each keyword reflects how frequently it appears in the analyzed data, while the connecting lines between keywords indicate the strength of the relationship between them. The larger the circle and the thicker the line, the more significant the keywords and their relationships are in the literature. This network provides a comprehensive view of the focus and interconnectivity of research on Islamic education metadata, waqf, and SDGs.

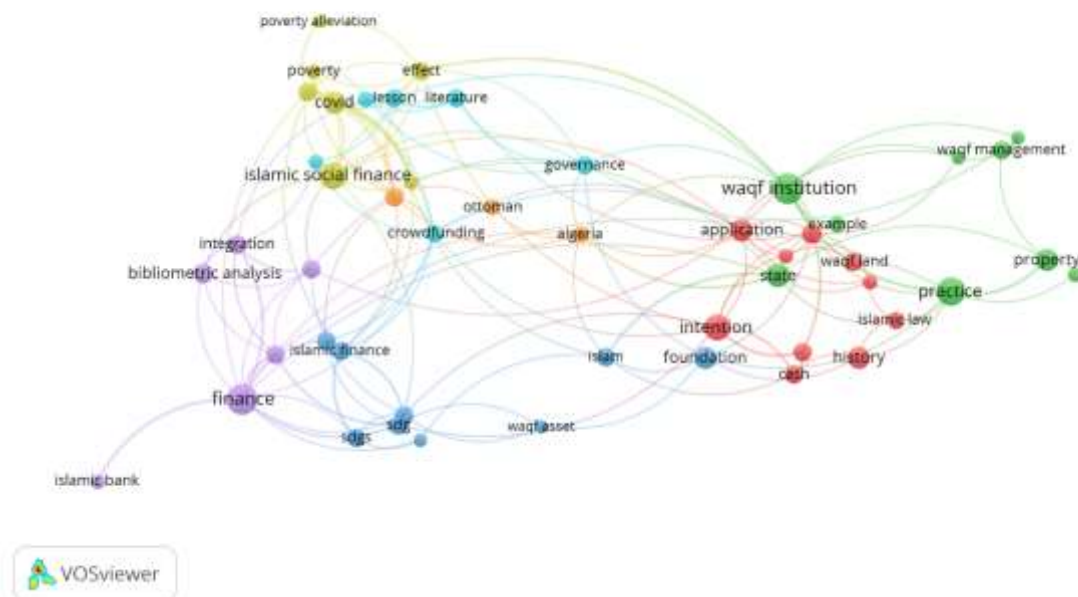


Figure 2. Network Visualization

Figure 2 illustrates a network visualization of the Waqf SDGs, which has been analyzed using VOS Viewer, revealing 31 keywords or topics organized into 6 clusters with distinct colors. A list of keywords or concepts researched within each cluster is also identified. This classification aims to determine the number of keywords or concepts discussed in previous research. According to Figure 2, it is evident that cluster 1 is marked with red circles and related topics, including waqf institution, application, state, waqf land, practice, example, Islamic law, history, cash, foundation, intention, and Islam. Cluster 2 is marked with a green circle, with the related topics of waqf management and property. Cluster 3 is marked with a blue circle, featuring topics related to Islamic finance, the SDGs, and finance. Cluster 4 is marked with a purple circle, featuring topics related to bibliometric analysis, integration, and Islamic banking. Cluster 5 is marked with a yellow circle, featuring topics related to poverty alleviation, poverty, COVID-19, its effects, lessons, and literature. Cluster 6 is marked with an orange circle, featuring topics related to Islamic finance, crowdfunding, the Ottoman Empire, Algeria, and governance.

Table 1. Clustering of Islamic Boarding School Waqf Clusters in SDGs

Name			Keywords
Cluster 1 (Red)	12 items		<i>waqf institution, application, state, waqf land, practice, example, Islamic law, history, cash, foundation, intention, dan Islam</i>
Cluster 2 (Green)	2 items		<i>waqf management dan property</i>
Cluster 3 (Blue)	3 items		<i>Islamic finance, SDGs, finance</i>
Cluster 4 (Purple)	3 items		<i>bibliometric analysis, integration, dan Islamic bank</i>
Cluster 5 (Yellow)	6 items		<i>poverty alleviation, poverty, covid, effect, lesson, literature</i>
Cluster 6 (Orange)	5 items		<i>Islamic finance, crowdfunding, ottoman, algeria, dan governance.</i>

Cluster 1

Based on Cluster 1 in Table 1 above, the topic of productive waqf for Sustainable Development Goals indicates that this cluster is at the core of the discussion in the analyzed literature. Dominant keywords such as waqf institution, application, state, waqf land, practice, example, Islamic law, history, cash, waqf cash, foundation, intention, and Islam. This cluster reflects a strong focus on the fundamental aspects of waqf, from its institutional structure, implementation in the field, to its legal basis and development throughout History. Much of the research in this cluster discusses how waqf, as an Islamic social finance instrument, can support the achievement of SDGs, particularly in poverty alleviation, education, health, and sustainable development. For example, the journal written by Karimah et al. (2023) examines the relationship between waqf and seven SDG goals, including poverty alleviation, quality education, clean energy, and decent work

(Karimah et al., 2023). In addition, a study by Rusydiana et al. (2024) presents a waqf model aligned with maqasid al-shariah to support the SDGs, while also highlighting the role of waqf in promoting financial inclusion and economic empowerment. The study also offers a novel integration of the waqf concept with maqashid al-shariah and the SDGs, aiming to address gaps in current waqf practices and provide a sustainable framework to fulfill social and religious obligations (Rusydiana et al., 2025). Then, in the Maqasid Al Shariah Journal Authority, written by Slamet et al. (2023), which discusses the relevance of the global cash waqf model to support SDG 17 (global partnership), emphasizes the importance of international collaboration in waqf management (Slamet et al., 2023).

Cluster 2

Based on Table 1, it can be seen that cluster 2 is closely related to and an integral part of cluster 1, but is separated as a distinct cluster due to its specific focus. The main keywords are waqf management and property. This cluster highlights special attention to waqf asset management. Research in this area tends to explore strategies and efficiency models for managing waqf assets, whether in the form of land, buildings, or other properties, to sustain and optimize their benefits. The focus is on effective management practices to ensure the growth and sustainability of waqf, often in the context of developing waqf institutions, as mentioned in cluster 1. Relevant research reviewed by Ahyani et.al (2025) assesses the effectiveness of waqf land registration programs to enhance the legal protection of waqf assets (Ahyani et al., 2024). In addition, research by Salsabila et al. (2024) discusses the challenges of accountability, transparency, and governance in waqf institutions, as well as the importance of audit and risk management (Salsabila et al., 2024).

Cluster 3

Based on Table 1 above, cluster 3 highlights the evolving relationship between the Islamic finance sector and the global development agenda. The main keywords in this cluster are SDGs, Islamic Finance, and Finance. The relatively large size of the SDGs node suggests that this topic holds significant importance in the current literature. Research in this cluster examines how Islamic finance principles and instruments can contribute to achieving various sustainable development goals. This includes a study by Mahadi and Yusuf (2025) that analyzes publication trends, key themes, and regional contributions in the development of sukuk waqf as a social finance innovation (Farhah Mahadi & Owolabi Yusuf, n.d.). Research by Kashi et al. (2025), who conducted a complex network bibliometric analysis on 645 waqf publications, identified four main themes: cash waqf, waqf in the Islamic social finance ecosystem, accountability, governance, and disclosure (Kashi et al., 2025). Another study reviewed by Syahthiri (2025) highlights trends in cash waqf research, focusing on the role of Malaysia and Indonesia as major contributors, as well as the identification of research gaps and future opportunities (Syathiri, 2025).

Cluster 4

This cluster encompasses methodological aspects and is linked to the Islamic banking sector. The main keywords are bibliometric analysis, integration, and Islamic bank. The application of bibliometric analysis reveals that several studies in this area employ quantitative methods to analyze and map the research landscape itself. Meanwhile, relevant research by Supriani et al. (2023) Describes the procedures and metrics most commonly used to report journal performance. Performance analysis and science mapping analysis are the two primary areas covered in this article's bibliometric metrics and approaches (Supriani et al., 2023). Furthermore, a bibliometric study of the worldwide Islamic banking literature gathered from Scopus from 2014 to 2023 was carried out by Fahamsyah et al. (2023). According to Fahamsyah et al. (n.d.), this bibliometric study summarizes the

current state of research on Islamic banking around the world and the strides that have been made in this field.

Cluster 5

This cluster focuses on research in the social and human dimensions, particularly on global impacts and challenges. Prominent keywords include poverty, alleviation, COVID-19, lessons, and literature. Research in this cluster focuses on the role of waqf and Islamic social finance in addressing social issues such as poverty and inequality. The existence of COVID-19 indicates the response and adaptation of waqf in the face of the global health crisis, as well as the impact of the pandemic on Islamic philanthropic practices. The keywords 'effect' and 'lesson' indicate efforts to evaluate the impact of the program and draw valuable lessons for future implementation, often by referring to existing literature for comprehensive analysis. A study related to this theme, reviewed by Nasim et al. (2023), analyzed poverty alleviation efforts in Indonesia during the COVID-19 pandemic, involving a combination of Islamic approaches and government policies, which can have a strategically positive impact in reducing poverty (Nasim & Haddade, 2023). In addition, research by Razak and Nor (2024) suggests that a combination of effective government interventions, improved financial literacy, and expanded digital financial inclusion are crucial strategies for reducing poverty, particularly during the COVID-19 pandemic crisis (Razak & Nor, 2024).

Cluster 6

This cluster addresses broader aspects of social finance, including innovative mechanisms and specific contexts. The dominant keywords are Islamic social finance crowdfunding, Ottoman, Algeria, and governance. This cluster reflects research that focuses on Islamic social finance instruments that go beyond traditional waqf, such as crowdfunding, which is an innovation in social fundraising. The presence of Ottoman and Algerian signifies specific historical or regional case studies, analyzing how waqf or Islamic social finance developed and was applied in a particular region or time period. The keyword governance highlights the importance of a strong and transparent governance framework to ensure the effectiveness and accountability of Islamic social finance instruments. The research relevant to this cluster, as cited by Ramli et al. (2023), emphasizes that a comprehensive Islamic governance framework is not only a religious requirement but also a critical success factor for the growth and credibility of the IECF market (Ramli et al., 2023). Additionally, research by Santoso (2025) demonstrates that Islamic crowdfunding is highly compatible with maqasid sharia principles, rendering it an effective tool for achieving Islamic social and economic objectives (Santoso, 2025).

CONCLUSION

The purpose of this study is to use VOSviewer bibliometric analysis to draw a picture of the state of knowledge concerning waqf, Islamic education metadata, and the SDGs. Six primary theme clusters reflecting the emphasis and dynamics of research in various domains were found based on keyword occurrence analysis in this study.

The identified clusters show that research on waqf has a strong foundation in its institutional, practical, legal, and historical aspects, including waqf asset management. In addition, there is significant attention to the role of Islamic finance more broadly in supporting the achievement of the SDGs, demonstrating the integration of sharia principles with the global development agenda. The socio-economic dimension of waqf, particularly in the context of poverty alleviation and crisis response (e.g., COVID-19), is also a prominent area of research. Furthermore, the literature also explores innovations in Islamic social finance, including crowdfunding, aspects of governance, and case studies in specific regional and historical contexts. The presence of a cluster that focuses on

bibliometric analysis itself indicates an awareness and effort to map the dynamics of knowledge in this field.

Overall, the findings underscore the interdisciplinary nature of waqf research, which extends beyond traditional fiqh and management aspects to encompass modern finance, sustainable development, and its social and economic impact. The interconnectivity between clusters confirms that waqf is viewed as a multifunctional instrument with significant potential in supporting broader development goals.

The implications of these findings suggest that future research could further explore models of waqf integration with financial technology (fintech) for SDGs, develop more adaptive governance frameworks, and conduct comparative studies of waqf practices in different countries to identify best practices that can be replicated.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

- Abu Sahman Nasim, & Hasyim Haddade. (2023). Poverty Alleviation Efforts During the Covid Period 19 in Indonesia (a Study of Maudhu'i Interpretation). *Formosa Journal of Sustainable Research*, 2(1), 217–230. <https://doi.org/10.55927/fjsr.v2i1.2494>
- Ahyani, H., Mutmainah, N., Ahmad, M. Y., Lousada, S. A. N., Triswandani, Y., Rahman, E. T., Rozikin, O., Dunur'aeni, M. A. E., Farid, D., Utama, S. M., & Ulummudin. (2024). Enhancing the Legal Protection of Waqf Assets in Banjar City, West Java, Through Land Registration and Regulatory Awareness to Support the Achievement of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). *Journal of Lifestyle and SDGs Review*, 5(2), e03989. <https://doi.org/10.47172/2965-730x.sdgreview.v5.n02.pe03989>
- Alputra Sudirman, F., & Trianita Lestari, D. (n.d.). *Tinjauan Tujuan Pembangunan Berkelanjutan (Sdgs) Di Afrika: Literatur Review*. <https://doi.org/10.45814/share.v13i2.39327>
- Abdel Karim, R. A. (2016). Integrating Islamic social finance instruments for SDGs financing: The case of zakat. *International Journal of Islamic and Middle Eastern Finance and Management*, 9(2), 194-205
- Demeunier, J. Nicolas. (2018). *Encyclopedie Methodique: economie politique et diplomatique, partie dediee et... presentee a monseigneur le baron de breteuil, mini*.
- Fahamsyah1, M. H., Mawardi2, I., Laila, N., & Shabbir, S. (n.d.). Global Islamic Banking Development: A Review and Bibliometric Analysis Using R-Biblioshiny Application. *Muqtasid*, 14(1), 69–92. <https://doi.org/10.18326/muqtasid.V14i1>
- Farhah Mahadi, N., & Owolabi Yusuf, M.-B. (n.d.). *A Bibliometric Analysis of Şukūk Waqf*.
- Fauziyah Latiefa Salsabila, Rini, & M Fahmi Hidayat. (2024). Strengthening Accountability Mechanisms In Waqf Institutions: A Systematic Literature Review. *Journal of Sharia Economics*, 5(2), 174–194. <https://doi.org/10.22373/jose.v5i2.5343>
- Karimah, D. A., Pamuncak, M. B., & Mubin, M. K. (2023). The Role of Waqf in Supporting Sustainable Development Goals: Linking theory and its practices. *SUHUF*, 35(2), 31–38. <https://doi.org/10.23917/suhuf.v35i2.23018>
- Karmanto, G. D. (2023, January 13). Wakaf untuk Pendidikan. *Redaksi BWI*.
- Kashi, A., Amor, A., Al-Hashemi, A., & Mahamat Issa, B. (2025). Trends, Evolution And Future Research Directions In Waqf: A Bibliometric Analysis Through Complex Networks. *Journal of Islamic Monetary Economics and Finance*, 11(2). <https://doi.org/10.21098/jimf.v11i2.2317>
- Lahuri, S. Bin, Zahrotun Nabila, L., & Damanhuri, S. E. (n.d.). Alternative Waqf Model For Sdg-4 (Quality Education) In The Era Globalization. In *Komitmen: Jurnal Ilmiah Manajemen* (Vol. 6, Issue 1).
- Mukorrobbah, N. K. (2025). *Kenali 17 Tujuan SDGs dan Penjelasannya*.
- Ramli, H. S., Ishak, M. S. I., & Nasir, N. S. M. (2023). A Comprehensive Shariah Governance Framework For Islamic Equity Crowdfunding: A Qualitative Analysis. *Journal of Governance and Regulation*, 12(4 Special Issue), 333–343. <https://doi.org/10.22495/jgrv12i4siart13>

- Razak, D. B. A., & Nor, B. A. (2024). The impact of covid-19 on poverty alleviation: Empirical evidence from Somalia. *Jurnal Ekonomi & Studi Pembangunan*, 25(2), 231–247. <https://doi.org/10.18196/jesp.v25i2.22193>
- Rianti, R. P., & Munawar, W. (n.d.). Optimalisasi Pengelolaan Wakaf Produktif Dalam Mendukung Sustainable Development Goals (Studi Kasus Lembaga Wakaf Di Kabupaten Bogor). In *PROFIES : Profetik Jurnal Ekonomi Syariah* (Vol. 03). <https://jurnal.uinsyahada.ac.id/index.php/Profetik/index>
- Rusydiana, A. S., Sukmana, R., Laila, N., & Riani, R. (2025). Waqf Development Models for Sustainable Development Goals: An Analytic Network Process Approach. *International Journal of Islamic Finance and Sustainable Development*, 17(1). <https://doi.org/10.55188/ijifsd.v17i1.929>
- Pratama, N. P. (2020). Sustainable development goals (sdgs) dan pengentasan kemiskinan di daerah istimewa yogyakarta. *Sosiohumaniora Jurnal Ilmiah Ilmu Sosial Dan Humaniora*, 64-74.
- Santoso, I. R. (2025). *Suitability of Crowdfunding in Islamic Social Finance From The Perspective of Maqasid Sharia* (Vol. 11, Issue 1).
- Slamet Rusydiana, A., Sukmana, R., & Laila, N. (2023). *Waqf and Partnerships for the Goals (SDG-17): A Maqasid Framework The seventeenth Sustainable Development Goal encapsulates the topic on enhancing implementation tools and reviving the global partnership for sustainable development Waqf and Partnerships for the Goals (SDG-17): A Maqasid Framework. Maqasid al-Shariah Review. 2.1.. Rusydiana et al. Waqf and Partnerships for the Goals (SDG-17): A Maqasid Framework.* <http://journals.smartinsight.id/index.php/MSR>
- Sukmana, R. (2020). Critical assessment of Islamic endowment funds (Waqf) literature: lesson for government and future directions. *Heliyon*, 6(10).
- Supriani, I., Mubarrok, U. S., & Info, A. (2023). Islamic economics, banking, and finance literature bibliometrics approach: Guideline for journal databases. *Review of Islamic Social Finance and Entrepreneurship (RISFE)*, 2023(1), 29. <https://doi.org/10.20885/RISFE>
- Syathiri, B. (2025). Bibliometric Analysis of Cash Waqf: Publication Trends and Its Impact on Islamic Economic Empowerment. In *MONETARIUM: Journal of Economic Business and Management* (Vol. 2, Issue 1).
- Suratman, S. S. (2022). Analisis implementasi strategi pengelolaan cash waqf linked sukuk dalam membangun pemberdayaan ekonomi umat: pendekatan analytic network process (anp). *Eksisbank Ekonomi Syariah Dan Bisnis Perbankan*, 236-253.
- Tamimah, T. (2021). Model pengelolaan wakaf uang di lembaga sinergi foundation dalam mencapai sdgs (sustainable development goals). *Filantropi : Jurnal Manajemen Zakat Dan Wakaf*, 77-91.
- Ullah, F., Shen, L., & Shah, S. H. H. (2023). Value co-creation in business-to-business context: A bibliometric analysis using HistCite and VOS viewer. In *Frontiers in Psychology* (Vol. 13).
- Wakaf Mulia. (2024). Peran Wakaf Produktif dalam Pendidikan: Membangun Sekolah dan Universitas. *WakafMulia.Org*.
- Wicaksono, A. (2023). Eksplorasi sustainable development goals (sdgs) disclosure di indonesia. *Jurnal Akademi Akuntansi*, 125-156.