

Waqf and Sustainable Humanitarian Financing

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Abstract

Waqf as an endowment instrument in Islam has been historically acknowledged as one of the greatest Muslim charitable tradition to provide sources in financing sustainable humanitarian initiatives. This study documents various case studies on how Islamic humanitarian NGOs across the globe optimize waqf funds to support their activities in providing sustainable humanitarian programs. It begins with information pertinent to the relevance of waqf to potential scale of waqf, in addition to the ways waqf is managed to improve the lives of beneficiaries. The study also outlines the barriers to realizing the humanitarian financing potential of waqf and provides guidelines for further research. Most of the information presented in the paper was obtained from desk-based research based on documentary analysis of public sources.

Keywords: Waqf, Humanitarian financing, Islamic philanthropy, Islamic social finance