

# **Integrating Islamic Fintech and Smart Contracts for Enhancing Governance in Waqf Asset Management**

## **Wan Amir Azlan Wan Haniff**

**Aiman Hafiz Abd Rashid<sup>1</sup>**  
**Wan Amir Azlan Wan Haniff<sup>2</sup>**  
**Rahmawati Mohd Yusoff<sup>3</sup>**  
**Asma Hakimah Ab Halim<sup>4</sup>**  
**Ruzian Markom<sup>5</sup>**

*1 Mara University of Technology, Johor 85000, Malaysia*

*2 Mara University of Technology, Johor 85000, Malaysia*

*3 Mara University of Technology, Johor 85000, Malaysia*

*<sup>4</sup> The National University of Malaysia, Bangi, Malaysia*

*<sup>5</sup> The National University of Malaysia, Bangi, Malaysia*

### **Abstract**

The article investigates the challenges and prospects of the ruling of Waqf Crowdfunding (Waqf-CF) scheme adoption in Malaysia as Shariah-compliant fintech successors deployed to mobilize Islamic endowment. However, the implementation of Waqf-CF is hindered by a number of challenges, such as the uncertainty of the legal aspects and fragmented governance, along with technology limitations and Shariah compliance issues. Using a qualitative approach, insights were gathered from seven experts 7 experts in finance, academia, and business to inform and guide our work. The results suggest that poor coordination of regulation between federal and state governments, varied modes of governance, and a lack of fintech literacy in waqf bodies are the barriers to successful implementation. In this regard, the paper examines the Waqf-CF models currently being used, including the Crowdfunding-Waqf Model and the Hasanah Platform, by highlighting the pros and cons of each. Based on these, the authors present a sophisticated hybrid model combining blockchain-based smart contracts, AI-led risk profiling, and real-time Shariah auditing for increased trust, transparency, and scalability. Finally, the paper calls for the need of a national regulatory framework and better institutional support to drive Waqf Crowdfunding as an ethical and sustainable funding option that is in line with Maqasid al-Shariah and the nation's vision to be a global Islamic financial hub.

**Keywords:** sustainability, transparency, fintech, governance, risk, challenges, impact