



The Transformation of Sharia Fintech from Fiqh Compliance to Strategic Contribution to the SDGs

Sitri¹, Aie Nuraeni², Cory Vidiati³, Mohammad Ridwan⁴

^{1,2,3}Universitas Islam Bunga Bangsa Cirebon, Indonesia

Email : almaedanewi@gmail.com, aienuraeni405@gmail.com,
coryvidiati29@gmail.com, ridwanciperna@gmail.com

Received: 2025-10-28; Accepted: 2026-1-30; Published: 2026-3-12

ABSTRACT

The development of Islamic fintech in Indonesia has experienced significant growth in the last decade, but the prevailing discourse remains focused on sharia compliance without exploring its strategic potential in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). This article aims to analyze the paradigm shift of Islamic fintech from merely fulfilling the requirements of Islamic jurisprudence (fiqh muamalah) to actively contributing to the sustainable development agenda. Through a literature study approach using content analysis methods on contemporary Islamic jurisprudence (fiqh muamalah) literature, Islamic fintech regulations, and SDGs documents, this study develops a "Sustainable Sharia Compliance" framework that integrates three dimensions: normative Islamic jurisprudence compliance, fintech business model innovation, and strategic impact on the SDGs. The findings indicate that Islamic jurisprudence principles such as *maslahah* (benefit), distributive justice, and the prohibition of exploitation are inherently aligned with the SDG targets, particularly SDGs 1, 8, 9, and 10. However, realizing this potential requires a shift in orientation from a compliance-driven to an impact-driven approach. This article offers a novel concept of digital *maslahah* as a parameter for evaluating the contribution of Islamic fintech to public welfare in the digital economy. This research's theoretical contribution enriches the discourse on Islamic economics with a development studies perspective and provides a normative foundation for Islamic fintech practitioners in designing products oriented toward sustainable socio-economic impact.

Keywords: *Sharia fintech, Sustainable Sharia Compliance, Islamic jurisprudence, SDGs.*

INTRODUCTION

The growth of Sharia fintech in Indonesia has shown significant growth over the past 10 years, from the number of providers to product innovation, as well as public demand for financial services based on Islamic values. However, the focus of Sharia fintech studies and practices is still dominated by Sharia compliance, particularly in the context of fulfilling the provisions of Islamic jurisprudence (fiqh) regarding transactions, such as the prohibition of usury (riba), gharar (gharar), and gambling (maisir).

Fintech is the result of the integration of technology and finance, aiming to reform the way financial services are provided through a technology-based approach to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of financial management. (Olyvia & Khotimah, n.d.)

This approach is crucial based on prevailing norms, however, it is not yet capable of addressing global challenges related to sustainable development and public welfare. Meanwhile, the UN, through its Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), emphasizes the importance of innovation in the financial sector to support equitable and just economic growth.

The role of sustainable development targeting economic growth arises due to negative impacts that lead to the emergence of an economic growth process. This encourages national and global companies and governments so that sustainable development prioritizes the harmony of economic and social aspects. The OJK collaborates with financial institutions to develop a road map that aims to outline the conditions to be achieved regarding sustainable finance in Indonesia for financial services and this initiative is also built to contribute to capturing business opportunities towards efforts to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Community involvement in the development process is a key factor in successful implementation because it positions the community as the primary actor, not merely the object of policy. Thus, this approach fosters a sense of ownership and collective responsibility for development implementation and outcomes. (Hidayat, 2022)

This phenomenon reflects the urgency of establishing a new paradigm that integrates the values of muamalah fiqh (Islamic jurisprudence) with the principles of Sustainable Sharia Compliance (SSC) as a comprehensive approach for Sharia fintech, focusing not only on legal Sharia compliance but also on positively impacting the achievement of the SDGs.

METHOD

This research is a qualitative study using library research methods, allowing researchers to thoroughly examine and interpret information from

various documents. The data sources used include contemporary muamalah fiqh literature as a theoretical basis for sharia principles in financial transactions. Qualitative research is considered appropriate because it is able to produce in-depth descriptions of current social phenomena, as well as give rise to new interpretations through analysis of existing literature.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

1. Paradigm Transformation: From Compliance-Driven to Impact-Driven

Sharia fintech is transforming from a formal compliance paradigm to an impact-oriented one. This means that the success of Sharia fintech is not only measured by its compliance with Islamic jurisprudence, but also by the extent to which it provides social and economic benefits to society. Fintech plays a crucial role in meeting consumer needs, including easy access to financial data and information anywhere and anytime. Fintech also provides opportunities for micro, small, and medium enterprises (MSMEs) to develop their businesses and compete with larger businesses. (Rozi et al., n.d.)

Currently, many financial service providers utilize technology to manage and distribute funds through specific accounts. Fintech has emerged as a new culture offering modern financial solutions. This advancement has proven to be highly influential in the lives of every individual, thus significantly impacting the Indonesian population on this global culture. (Cicik Maryati & Amelia Kartika, 2024a)

This study discusses the paradigm shift in the challenges faced by Islamic financial institutions in adopting technological innovation. These findings demonstrate a positive impact on operational efficiency, product diversification, and responsiveness to consumer demand, marking a transformation from mere compliance to creating real impact. (Diva Khalishah Mutiara & Madian Muhammad Muchlis, 2024)

Digital Transformation in Philanthropy By utilizing Islamic fintech to better manage zakat and waqf, Islam not only makes the process more transparent and efficient, but also increases public trust and supports the goals of fairer and more sustainable social and economic development. (Cicik Maryati & Amelia Kartika, 2024b)

Based on the various views above, it can be concluded that changes in Islamic fintech indicate a major shift from simply complying with Islamic jurisprudence to a broader focus on creating social and economic impact for society. Islamic fintech is now used not only as a means of Sharia-compliant financial transactions but also as a means to strengthen the community's economy, especially micro and small businesses, so they can grow and compete

better. The use of technology in the Islamic financial system has been proven to increase efficiency, expand access to services, and strengthen transparency and public trust in these services. Furthermore, the application of fintech in zakat and waqf management also makes a real contribution to sustainable economic development and social justice. Thus, the development of Sharia fintech not only reflects advances in financial technology but also demonstrates concrete efforts to realize the mission of Islamic economics, which emphasizes the welfare of the people and equitable distribution of prosperity.

Figures and Tables

Table 1. Conceptual Framework for Sustainable Sharia Compliance (SSC)

| Key Dimension | Description | Main Focus |
|--|---|--|
| 1. Normative Compliance in Fiqh Muamalah | Emphasizes the fulfillment of Sharia principles in every fintech activity, including the permissibility of transactions, fairness, and transparency in contracts. | Maintaining compliance with Islamic law and ensuring moral integrity in digital financial practices. |
| 2. Innovation in Sharia Fintech Business | Models Encourage the implementation of efficient, transparent, and inclusive financial technology, so that Sharia financial services are widely accessible to the public. | Develop a digital financial system that is adaptive, accountable, and supports the economic empowerment of the people. |
| 3. Strategic Impact on the SDGs | Measures the extent to which Sharia fintech contributes to sustainable development goals, particularly in the areas of social welfare, economic equality, and environmental sustainability. | Improving tangible social and economic impact on society through Islamic financial innovation. |

This table shows three key aspects of SSC: (1) Compliance with Islamic fiqh muamalah rules – ensuring every Islamic fintech transaction complies with halal and ethical principles; (2) Innovation in Islamic fintech businesses – encompassing work efficiency, system transparency, and inclusive access for the community; (3) Strategic impact on the SDGs – measuring the contribution of Islamic fintech to improving social welfare, economic equality, and sustainable development. (Azizah et al., 2025; Ramadhan, 2022; Zulfa, 2025)

2. Digital Issue Concept

Digital issues are introduced as a new indicator for assessing the success of Islamic fintech in the digital era. This concept refers to the socio-economic benefits generated from the use of Islamic financial technology, including increased access to financing, empowerment of MSMEs, and transparency in the distribution of Islamic social funds.

The case of Sharia-based online lending is an interesting issue to examine from the perspective of Al-Ghazali's *maslahah* principle. The growth of fintech in Indonesia has created various online lending platforms, including those claiming to operate in accordance with Sharia principles and registered with the Financial Services Authority (OJK) from 2022 to 2023. However, the actual practice of these services has sparked various controversies, sparking discussions about traditional understandings of Sharia finance and the application of *maslahah* principles amidst the development of digital technology. (Daredmi et al., 2024)

Sharia fintech plays a role in supporting the SDGs program, particularly in several economic goals, such as creating decent jobs and increasing economic growth, reducing poverty, alleviating hunger, and achieving social welfare. (Trimulato et al., 2022)

The application of *maslahah* principles to fintech development in Indonesia can be used to create more effective regulations and encourage inclusive, safe, and equitable fintech growth. The principle of *maslahah*, which emphasizes the common good, can help resolve various issues such as user protection, information security, universal banking access, and ethical business practices. By implementing this principle, regulations can adapt more quickly to technological changes, ensuring that public interest remains a top priority in every decision. (Hasan et al., 2024)

Digital issues in Islamic fintech have become a new benchmark for assessing the extent to which financial innovations based on Islamic principles can benefit society in the digital age. Today, the success of Islamic fintech is not only measured by its adherence to Islamic law, but also by the social and

economic benefits it provides, such as increased access to financing, empowerment of MSMEs, and transparency in the management of Islamic social funds. The example of Sharia-based online lending demonstrates the challenges in implementing the principle of *maslahah*, as explained by Al-Ghazali, namely maintaining a balance between Sharia compliance and user protection amidst technological developments. Furthermore, Islamic fintech plays a crucial role in supporting the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), particularly in creating decent jobs, reducing poverty, and improving social welfare. By applying the principle of *maslahah* as the basis for policy and regulation, the development of Islamic fintech in Indonesia can be more inclusive, ethical, and adaptable to technological advances, thus providing a financial system that is efficient, fair, and oriented towards the common good.

CONCLUSION

Based on the results and discussion regarding the development of Islamic fintech in Indonesia demonstrates a significant transformation from merely fulfilling Islamic jurisprudence (*fiqh*) regulations to creating broader socio-economic value and benefits. This paradigm shift from compliance-driven to impact-driven marks the birth of a new approach in the Islamic financial ecosystem, where Sharia compliance is not only understood normatively but also measured through its contribution to societal welfare and sustainable development. Through the concept of Sustainable Sharia Compliance (SSC), Islamic fintech is expected to integrate three main aspects: compliance with Islamic jurisprudence (*fiqh*) laws, technology-based business model innovation, and tangible impact on achieving the SDGs.

Furthermore, the emergence of the digital *maslahah* concept broadens the scope of assessing the success of Islamic fintech in the digital era. This principle emphasizes the importance of public benefits generated through Islamic financial services – from increasing access to financing for the poor, empowering MSMEs, to transparency in the management of Islamic social funds such as *zakat* and *waqf*. Islamic fintech no longer serves solely as an Islamic-based financial instrument, but also as a driver of social justice, economic equality, and inclusive innovation oriented toward the welfare of the community. Based on the principle of *maslahah*, which is adaptive to technological change, the direction of Islamic fintech development in Indonesia has the potential to become a sustainable financial model that prioritizes ethical values, distributive justice, and a tangible contribution to public welfare and the achievement of the SDGs.

REFERENCES

- Azizah, Z., Dewi, M. K., Pratama, Y., & Hidayanti, N. F. (2025). Literasi Keuangan Syariah Dan Teknologi Finansial: Pengaruhnya Terhadap Inklusi Keuangan Di Kalangan Mahasiswa. 2(4).
- Cicik Maryati & Amelia Kartika. (2024). Analisis Model Bisnis Fintech Payment Syariah Berbasis Zakat dan Wakaf. *SANTRI: Jurnal Ekonomi dan Keuangan Islam*, 3(1), 10-32. <https://doi.org/10.61132/santri.v3i1.1161>
- Daredmi, S., Rozalinda, & Zulvianti, N. (2024). Transformation of Maslahah Principles in E-Commerce in Al-Ghazali's View. *Jurnal Informatika Ekonomi Bisnis*, 872-877. <https://doi.org/10.37034/infec.v6i4.1003>
- Diva Khalishah Mutiara & Madian Muhammad Muchlis. (2024). Dampak Teknologi Finansial Dalam Perbankan Syariah: Pendekatan Kualitatif Terhadap Perubahan Paradigma Dan Tantangan. *Journal Economic Excellence Ibnu Sina*, 2(1), 47-57.
- Hasan, N., Abubakar, A., Haddade, H., Kurniati, K., Nurjannah, N., & Sabbar, S. D. (2024). Maslahah Najmuddin Al-Thufi: A Framework for Fintech Benefit Realization in Indonesia. *Jurnal Ilmiah Al-Syir'ah*, 22(1), 125. <https://doi.org/10.30984/jis.v22i1.2100>
- Hidayat, A. (2022). Implementasi Pembangunan Sustainable Development Goals (Sdgs) Dalam Meningkatkan Kesejahteraan Masyarakat. *Papatung: Jurnal Ilmu Administrasi Publik, Pemerintahan dan Politik*, 5(2), 55-62.
- Meli, M., Fitriya, F., & Ridwan, M. (2025). Ekonomi Islam dan Transformasi Perekonomian Arab Saudi: Sebuah Studi tentang Implementasi Nilai-Nilai Islam. *Jurnal Study Islam*, 1(03), 282-293.
- Olyvia, N., Khotimah, R., & RR, A. O. (2024). Regulasi Dan Pengawasan Uang Elektronik Syariah: Antara Inovasi Fintech Dan Kepatuhan Syariah. *Journal Central Publisher*, 2(6), 2166-2175.
- Ramadhan, D. S. (2022). Financial Technology And Sharia Compliance Regulations In Islamic Banking In Indonesia. *Al-Arbah: Journal of Islamic Finance and Banking*, 4(2), 217-231. <https://doi.org/10.21580/al-arbah.2022.4.2.15647>
- Rozi, F., AR, S. W. S., Khowatim, K., & Rochayatun, S. (2024). Peran financial technology (fintech) syariah dalam perekonomian negara di Indonesia. *Jurnal Ilmiah Ekonomi Islam*, 10(2), 1668-1674.
- Trimulato, T., Nafis, M. C., & Amalia, E. (2022). The Role Sharia Fintech Support Sustanaible Development Goals Program (SDGs). *Jurnal Ilmiah Ekonomi Islam*, 8(1), 251. <https://doi.org/10.29040/jiei.v8i1.3911>
- Zulfa, M. H. (2025). Peran financial technology syariah dalam meningkatkan inklusi keuangan di kalangan UMKM berbasis syariah di Indonesia. 5.