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The Absence of National Disaster Declaration in Sumatra Floods 2025: *Maqasid Syariah* Perspective and Economic Impact

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Abstract

Objective: This study examines the implications of the absence of a national disaster declaration during the 2025 Sumatra floods by analysing its juridical validity, governance consequences, and economic impacts through the lens of *Maqasid Syariah*. The study addresses a gap in disaster governance literature by investigating policy inaction as a determinant of welfare deficits and post-disaster economic vulnerability.
Method: This research employs a qualitative socio-legal approach integrating normative legal analysis, disaster governance evaluation, and regional economic assessment. Data were collected from disaster management regulations, government reports, statistical publications, policy documents, and relevant academic literature. The data were analysed using content analysis and the *Maqasid Syariah* framework.
Result: The findings indicate that the 2025 Sumatra floods substantively fulfilled the legal indicators for a national disaster declaration under Law No. 24 of 2007. However, the absence of such a declaration weakened coordination, delayed resource mobilisation, and reduced the effectiveness of humanitarian and recovery interventions. From a *Maqasid Syariah* perspective, this policy inaction generated deficits in the protection of life, wealth, intellect, lineage, religion, and the environment. Economically, it contributed to prolonged recovery, disrupted investment, and increased regional vulnerability.
Implication: Integrating *Maqasid Syariah* into disaster governance can strengthen welfare-oriented policy evaluation, improve recovery effectiveness, and enhance socio-economic resilience.
Originality or Novelty: This study conceptualises policy inaction as a form of disaster-governance failure and analyses its implications using an integrated framework linking *Maqasid Syariah*, disaster governance, and regional economic recovery.

Keywords: Disaster Governance; Economic Recovery; Islamic Public Policy; *Maqasid Syariah*; Policy Inaction.

Introduction

Indonesia is among the countries most vulnerable to hydrometeorological disasters worldwide. This condition is closely linked to Indonesia's geographical and climatological characteristics as a tropical archipelagic state located between two oceans and two continents, making it highly influenced by global atmospheric dynamics such as the monsoon, La Niña, and climate change. These factors contribute to high rainfall intensity and extreme weather variability, which in turn increase the frequency of hydrometeorological disasters such as floods, landslides, and strong winds.

Data from the National Disaster Management Agency (BNPB) indicate that hydrometeorological disasters have consistently dominated disaster occurrences in Indonesia over the years. In 2025, for instance, approximately 98.51% of total disaster events were hydrometeorological, while geological disasters accounted for only a small proportion. (Data Informasi Bencana Indonesia BNPB, n.d.). This dominance persisted into subsequent years; by early 2026, hundreds of disaster events had already occurred, most of which were floods and extreme weather events. (Praditya, 2026). This confirms that disaster threats in Indonesia are not merely incidental but have become recurrent and systemic.

The 2025 Sumatra floods were not an ordinary disaster; rather, they constituted a multidimensional humanitarian crisis affecting lives, property, infrastructure, and the economic sustainability of millions of people, thereby requiring a state response commensurate with the scale of the emergency. The flash floods struck three provinces in Sumatra: Aceh, North Sumatra, and West Sumatra. The disaster represented one of the most severe hydrometeorological crises in recent Indonesian history. The combination of extreme rainfall and fragile environmental conditions caused rivers to overflow, widespread flooding, and landslides in many areas, submerging thousands of homes, severing road access and vital infrastructure, and forcing large numbers of residents to evacuate (Sains, n.d.).

These late November floods also resulted in more than 400 fatalities across the three affected provinces. (Salma, 2025). The disaster's destructive intensity continued to escalate over time. According to BNPB data as of 27 January 2026, the death toll had reached 1,201, with 142 individuals still reported missing, and a total of 53 regencies and municipalities across the three provinces affected. (Fadhil, n.d.). The scale of infrastructural damage was extensive: 175,050 houses, 215 health facilities, 4,546 educational facilities, 803 places of worship, 866 bridges, and 2,165 road segments were damaged. (Fadhil, n.d.).

From the perspective of displacement, the prolonged nature of the crisis underscores the severity of its social impact: approaching the turn of 2026, approximately 395,800 individuals remained displaced, with the highest concentration in Aceh Province, at 374,300 people. (databoks.katadata.co.id, n.d.). The causes of the disaster are also closely linked to structural environmental factors. A hydrology and watershed conservation researcher from Universitas Gadjah Mada, Dr Hatma Suryatmojo, noted that daily rainfall in parts of North Sumatra exceeded 300 millimetres, driven by extraordinary atmospheric dynamics, including Tropical Cyclone Senyar; however, the severity of the impact was significantly exacerbated by the weakening of natural upstream defences due to forest degradation. (Salma, 2025).

From an economic perspective, a report by the Centre of Economic and Law Studies (Celios) estimated that the total national economic losses from floods and landslides across the three

provinces amounted to IDR 68.6 trillion, equivalent to a 0.29% decline in national GDP. North Sumatra, as a key industrial and trade hub, experienced disruptions in the distribution of consumer goods and industrial materials, thereby intensifying cross-provincial economic pressures (*Celios: Kerugian Ekonomi Banjir Sumatra Capai Rp68,6 Triliun*, n.d.).

Literature Review

Empirical studies across 30 Indonesian provinces indicate that the direct impacts of natural disasters include a significant decline in regional economic growth, a notable increase in unemployment, and a rise in poverty, though not always statistically significant. (A. P. Ilham, n.d.). Research on post-disaster regional fiscal balance in Indonesia shows that disasters lead to significant increases in transfers from the central government to regional governments. At the same time, reconstruction of health and educational facilities not only fulfils basic societal needs but also contributes significantly to economic growth. *(Wiyanti & Halimatussadiah, 2021).*

Previous research has widely examined the economic consequences of natural disasters, including regional economic contraction, infrastructure damage, inflationary pressure, labour disruption, and declining investment. Disaster economics literature generally emphasises the importance of fiscal intervention, institutional resilience, and rapid recovery mechanisms in mitigating long-term socio-economic losses. However, limited studies specifically analyse how delayed disaster recognition and policy inaction contribute to regional economic vulnerability. Existing literature also rarely integrates disaster economics with Islamic governance perspectives, particularly through the framework of *Maqasid Syariah*. As a result, the relationship between disaster governance failure, welfare protection deficits, and economic recovery disruption remains insufficiently addressed in current scholarship.

These findings are reinforced by the UNDRR Global Assessment Report (GAR) 2025, which emphasises that without substantial efforts to bridge the gap between risk and investment, financial and economic consequences will become increasingly difficult to manage. In situations of recurrent disasters, economic growth tends to slow while debt levels increase. (*Global Assessment Report (GAR) 2025 | UNDRR*, 2025). From the perspective of Islamic law, studies in Al-Infaq: Jurnal Ekonomi Islam (2025) indicate that *Maqasid Syariah* has not yet been fully integrated as a comprehensive framework in policy evaluation in Indonesia, resulting in persistent issues such as inequality, structural poverty, and environmental degradation. (Khatimah & Rudiyanto, 2025).

In addition, contemporary disaster governance literature increasingly emphasises adaptive and collaborative resilience frameworks in responding to large-scale crises. Tiernan argues that modern disaster governance has shifted from traditional command-and-control models towards adaptive resilience approaches that prioritise institutional coordination, multi-level governance, and collaborative recovery mechanisms (Tiernan et al., 2019). Their study further highlights that fragmented disaster responses may weaken long-term resilience and the effectiveness of recovery. In the context of the 2025 Sumatra floods, these perspectives are relevant to understanding how the absence of a national disaster declaration may have limited broader coordination and adaptive recovery capacity across affected regions. Dai demonstrates that disaster management outcomes are strongly influenced by governments' ability to coordinate institutional actors, mobilise resources, and integrate recovery strategies across administrative levels (Dai & Azhar, 2024). Their

findings suggest that fragmented governance structures may reduce the effectiveness of recovery and increase socio-economic vulnerability in disaster-affected regions.

Other studies, including those published in *Samarah: Jurnal Hukum Keluarga dan Hukum Islam*, highlight the relevance of *Maqasid Syariah* for evaluating Islamic economic systems in disaster contexts, citing Chapra's (2008) view that public policy based on sharia must prioritise public welfare as its primary objective. (Muttaqin et al., 2023). From an environmental perspective, as part of contemporary Maqasid, research in the *Asy-Syari'ah Journal* concludes that environmental protection is an integral component of the objectives of sharia, particularly in safeguarding life *(ḥifẓ al-nafs)* and ecological sustainability *(ḥifẓ al-bī'ah)* through a holistic ethical approach. (*Humanitarian Ecology in Islamic Law: Balancing Human Needs and Environmental Preservation in Islamic Law | Asy-Syari'ah*, n.d.)

A study published in *El-Kahfi: Journal of Islamic Economics* (2025) further emphasises that although theoretical engagement with *Maqasid Syariah* continues to develop, its practical implementation in public policy remains limited due to the dominance of formalistic approaches and weak institutional adaptation. Consequently, systemic reform is deemed necessary to align policy orientation with substantive public welfare. (Marwah et al., 2025). Moreover, research examining government policy inaction in disaster contexts through the lens of *Maqasid Syariah*, particularly regarding its implications for regional economic growth, remains scarce in the Indonesian Islamic economics literature.

This study employs a causal analytical framework to explain how policy inaction generates multidimensional consequences for disaster governance, public welfare protection, and regional economic recovery. Within this model, the 2025 Sumatra floods function as the contextual condition, while the limited state response operates as the independent variable shaping state intervention and subsequent policy outcomes. The framework assumes that delayed recognition of disasters slowed institutional response, constrained public resources, and weakened post-disaster recovery. These governance failures subsequently generate deficits in the protection of public welfare as conceptualised within *Maqasid Syariah*. At the same time, they intensify regional economic vulnerability in affected communities.

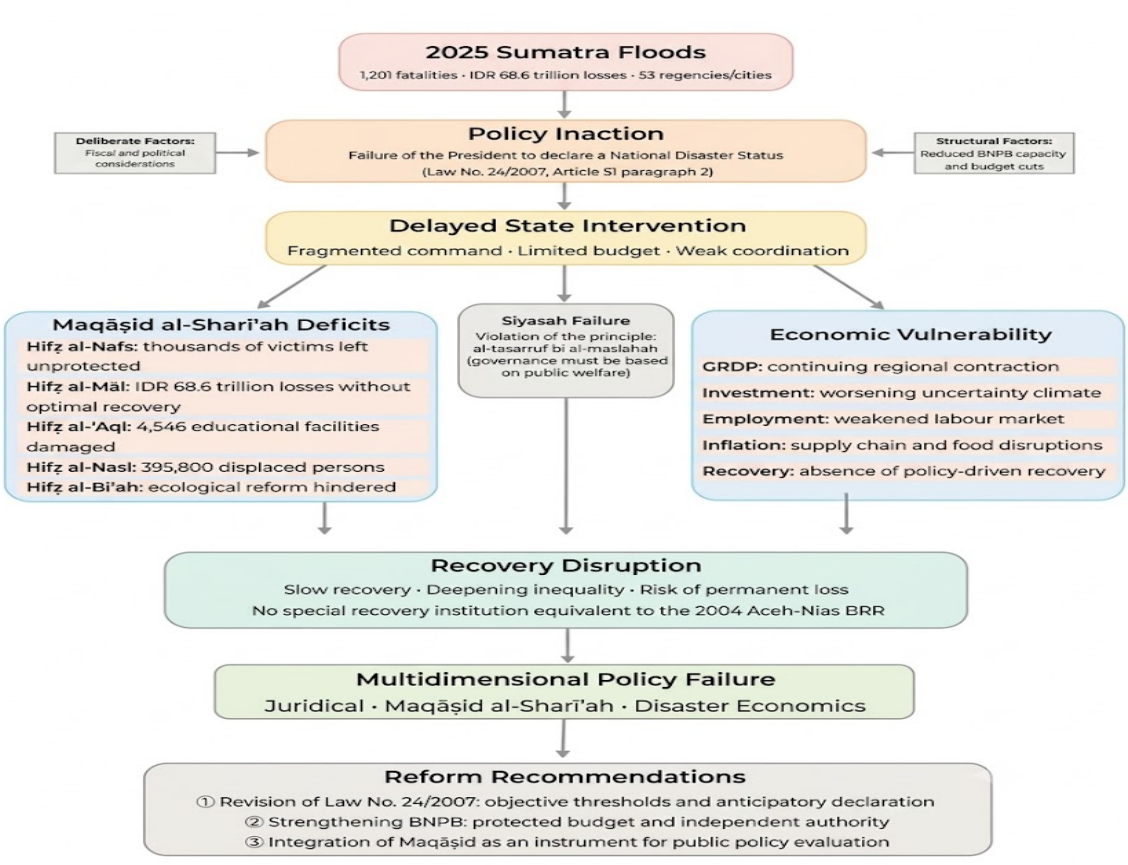
Analytically, the causal process unfolds in several stages. First, large-scale flooding creates urgent demands for state intervention. Secondly, delayed state intervention weakened coordination in disaster governance and slowed emergency administrative response. Thirdly, delayed intervention produces deficits across the five dimensions of *al-kulliyyāt al-khams*: protection of life *(ḥifẓ al-nafs)*, wealth *(ḥifẓ al-māl)*, intellect *(ḥifẓ al-'aql)*, lineage *(ḥifẓ al-nasl)*, and religion *(ḥifẓ al-dīn)*. Simultaneously, these conditions increase economic vulnerability through a contraction in GRDP, declining investment, livelihood disruption, regional inflation, and weakened capacity for recovery.

The framework further positions recovery disruption as the long-term consequence of weak state intervention. Delayed recovery may intensify permanent losses, deepen structural inequality, and increase long-term socio-economic vulnerability. Accordingly, delayed disaster recognition is understood not merely as administrative delay, but as a multidimensional governance failure with juridical, humanitarian, and economic consequences.

To establish clear analytical boundaries, this study operationalises the research variables into five principal components. The 2025 Sumatra floods function as the contextual condition underlying the crisis. Policy inaction operates as the independent variable and is categorised into deliberate inaction and structural inaction. The intervening factors include delayed state response, weak institutional coordination, limited resource distribution, and slow economic recovery. The dependent variables consist of *Maqasid* deficits and regional economic vulnerability. The *Maqasid* deficits are assessed through the dimensions of protection of life, wealth, intellect, lineage, and religion. Meanwhile, regional economic vulnerability is analysed through GRDP contraction, investment decline, inflationary pressure, livelihood disruption, and broader socio-economic instability. Finally, the framework positions recovery disruption and multidimensional governance failure as the principal policy outcomes generated by prolonged policy inaction.

The analytical relationship employed in this study is illustrated in Figure 1 below.

Figure .1
Analytical Framework



Source Image: Design in Canva

Based on the factual, juridical, and literature gaps outlined above, the academic and practical urgency of this study is evident. It seeks to address the research gap by positioning policy inaction as an object of *Maqasid Syariah* analysis within the context of national disaster policy, while also providing a normative foundation for regulatory reform that is more responsive, equitable, and aligned with the objectives of sharia in protecting life *(ḥifẓ al-nafs)*, wealth *(ḥifẓ al-māl)*, and the socio-economic sustainability of society.

Research Methodology

This study employs a qualitative socio-legal approach to examine the implications of the absence of a national disaster declaration during the 2025 Sumatra floods. The analysis integrates perspectives on disaster governance, Maqasid Syariah, and regional economic recovery. Data were obtained from legal documents, including Law No. 24 of 2007 on Disaster Management and Government Regulation No. 21 of 2008, as well as official reports from the National Disaster Management Agency (BNPB), the Central Statistics Agency (BPS), and institutional publications related to the 2025 Sumatra floods. Secondary data were collected from academic journals, books, policy reports, and relevant studies on disaster governance, public policy, and Islamic economics.

Data collection was conducted through document analysis and literature review. To enhance validity, source triangulation was applied by comparing information from legal documents, official statistics, government reports, and scholarly publications. The analysis was carried out in three stages. First, a juridical analysis was conducted to assess whether the 2025 Sumatra floods met the legal criteria for a national disaster declaration as stipulated in Article 7(2) of Law No. 24 of 2007, namely, casualties, economic losses, infrastructure damage, geographical coverage, and socio-economic impacts. Second, *Maqasid Syariah* analysis was employed to evaluate the implications of policy inaction on the protection of life (*ḥifẓ al-nafs*), wealth (*ḥifẓ al-māl*), intellect (*ḥifẓ al-ʻaql*), lineage (*ḥifẓ al-nasl)*, religion (*ḥifẓ al-dīn)*, and environmental sustainability (*ḥifẓ al-bī'ah*). Third, a descriptive economic analysis was conducted to assess the impacts on regional economic vulnerability using indicators such as economic losses, infrastructure disruptions, investment constraints, recovery delays, and socio-economic instability.

The findings from these three analytical stages were then integrated to explain how policy inaction influenced the effectiveness of disaster governance, public welfare protection, and post-disaster economic recovery.

Results and Discussion

A serious paradox emerges regarding the flooding disaster in Sumatra, specifically in Aceh, North Sumatra, and West Sumatra. On the one hand, the floods and landslides that struck the three provinces in Sumatra at the end of November 2025, in factual terms, fulfilled and even exceeded all the juridical indicators stipulated in Article 7 paragraph (2) of Law No. 24 of 2007. These include a massive number of casualties, extremely large material losses, damage to infrastructure and facilities across multiple districts and municipalities, a geographical scope covering 53 districts/cities across three provinces, and socio-economic impacts estimated at IDR 68.6 trillion(*Celios: Kerugian Ekonomi Banjir Sumatra Capai Rp68,6 Triliun*, n.d.). On the other hand, the government consistently refrained from declaring a National Disaster status. It allowed the response to rely on provincial-level disaster management mechanisms, whose capacity, both factual and juridical, was not designed to handle a crisis of such magnitude.

The government's justification, which rests on the argument that the disaster affected only three out of 38 provinces, is juridically untenable. Legal analysis from *Kompas* emphasises that the designation of national disaster status is not merely a matter of categorising an event as a "regional" or "national" disaster, but rather constitutes the fulfilment of the President's constitutional obligation as the highest leader of the state to protect the entire nation, in accordance with the legal maxim *salus populi suprema lex esto* the welfare of the people is the

supreme law (Media, 2025). Furthermore, analysis from *The Conversation* indicates that national disaster status can in fact be declared prior to a cyclone making landfall, as practised in the United States and Australia through anticipatory disaster declarations. Such measures aim to affirm the state's moral-political commitment and to mobilise bureaucratic structures at various levels swiftly and systematically (Lassa, 2025).

Feri Amsari, a constitutional law expert from Andalas University, asserts that the disaster in Sumatra is the result of flawed political calculations and non-compliance with the 1945 Constitution. He further argues that the underlying reason for the absence of a national disaster declaration lies in the central government's fiscal incapacity to bear the consequences following significant budget cuts to the BNPB. These findings are consistent with reports from Indonesia Corruption Watch (ICW), which note that more than 40 days after the disaster, the state's response remained characterised by a lack of transparency, weak budget accountability, and the absence of clear policy responsibility. Moreover, the Civil Society Anti-Corruption Coalition for Disaster Response has urged the government to declare a national disaster status to ensure centralised coordination and accelerate response efforts. (Salma, 2025).

This argument reinforces the view that the government's policy inaction in the case of the 2025 Sumatra floods is not merely the product of technocratic, evidence-based considerations, but is heavily influenced by fiscal and political calculations that contradict the constitutional mandate to protect citizens.

Comparative experiences from several disaster-prone countries demonstrate that anticipatory governance and rapid emergency coordination play an important role in reducing humanitarian and economic losses during large-scale disasters. In Japan, disaster governance frameworks emphasise early warning systems, rapid administrative coordination, and anticipatory evacuation mechanisms to minimise post-disaster vulnerability. Similarly, Bangladesh has strengthened community-based flood governance and anticipatory disaster preparedness through integrated early response systems and local resilience programmes. These approaches illustrate how timely state intervention and coordinated disaster management can strengthen recovery effectiveness and protect public welfare during major disasters.

Conversely, experiences from countries facing governance limitations during major disasters indicate that delayed intervention and fragmented coordination may intensify socio-economic vulnerability. Studies on post-disaster governance in Pakistan and Türkiye demonstrate that weak institutional coordination, delayed emergency response, and administrative fragmentation may prolong humanitarian disruption and weaken recovery capacity. These comparative experiences are relevant to the 2025 Sumatra floods, where delayed national recognition of the disaster potentially affected broader coordination capacity, resource mobilisation, and post-disaster recovery mechanisms across affected regions.

Within the framework of *Maqasid al-Syarī'ah*, the absence of a national disaster declaration results in a serious deficit in the fulfilment of all dimensions of *al-Kulliyyāt al-Khams*, with varying degrees of harm that nonetheless reinforce one another. As illustrated in the table below.

Table No.1

Table of *Maqasid Syariah* Deficits in the 2025 Sumatra Floods

Dimension of *Maqasid al-Syarī'ah*	**Details of Damage or Physical Impact**	**Number of Victims or Affected Facilities**	**Legal/Ethical Implications (Inferred)**	**Policy Recommendations**
Hifz al-Nafs (Protection of Life)	Failure to ensure physical safety, as well as psychological, social, and emotional well-being, due to flooding.	220 deaths, 50 missing, 1,604 injured, and 1,853,169 affected and displaced. (*Welcome - Portal Satu Data Bencana Indonesia*, n.d.). (Bawono et al., 2025) emphasizes that the protection of life includes physical, psychological, and social dimensions.	A form of negligence (*tafrīṭ*) and a violation of the principle *lā ḍarar wa lā ḍirār* due to the absence of a proportionate state response.	Declaration of a national disaster status to enable full and coordinated mobilisation of national resources.
Hifz al-Mal (Protection of Property)	Destruction of homes, road infrastructure, bridges, agricultural land, public facilities, and disruption of industrial distribution.	Economic losses of IDR 68.6 trillion; direct losses in three provinces amounting to IDR 2.2 trillion. (*Celios: Kerugian Ekonomi Banjir Sumatra Capai Rp68,6 Triliun*, n.d.)	Violation of the authority's obligation to protect public wealth by failing to optimise access to special budget allocations.	Integration of Islamic principles into development planning and provision of access to special budget allocations through the declaration of a national disaster.
Hifz al-'Aql (Protection of Intellect)	Threats to the continuity of education and intellectual development of the younger generation.	4,546 educational facilities were damaged.	Failure to ensure both material and spiritual needs in human development (hierarchy of *daruriyyāt*).	Restoration of educational facilities and the continuity of access to learning in the post-disaster period.
Hifz al-Nasl (Protection of Lineage)	Nutritional crisis, disruption of maternal and child healthcare services, and weakening of family cohesion due to displacement.	395,800 individuals remained displaced until the end of 2025.	A tangible threat to the quality of life of future generations due to prolonged displacement conditions.	Restoration of maternal and child healthcare services and relocation of displaced persons to maintain family resilience.
Hifz al-Din (Protection of Religion)	Disruption of places of worship and the spiritual dimension of affected communities.	803 places of worship were damaged.	The most fundamental dimension of the Maqasid hierarchy is threatened by	Rehabilitation of places of worship as a priority within comprehensive human development.

			damage to religious infrastructure.	
Hifz al-Bi'ah (Environmental Protection)	Systemic ecological disaster resulting from deforestation, land conversion for mining and palm oil, and weak watershed governance.	Not specified in source.	Structural violation due to policies oriented solely towards wealth (partial) while neglecting ecological balance.	Moratorium on new mining permits, comprehensive evaluation of corporate licences, enforcement of reclamation obligations, and suspension of new palm oil permits.

Source: BNPB and banjiraceh.acehstudies.org

Within the framework of *fiqh siyasah*, the government's policy inaction in this case may be categorised as a violation of the legal maxim *al-taṣarruf 'alā al-ra'iyyah manūṭ bi al-maṣlaḥah* (al-Suyūṭī, n.d.)The decision not to adopt such a policy appears to have been driven more by fiscal and political calculations than by the *maṣlaḥah ḥaqīqiyyah* of the affected population. The relevance of *Maqasid al-Syarī'ah* in addressing humanitarian crises lies in its capacity to provide a comprehensive ethical framework that transcends positive law, emphasising that Muslim leaders bear a non-negotiable *shar'ī* obligation to respond to crises promptly, proportionately, and in the public interest.

The economic implications of the absence of a national disaster declaration reveal serious, multi-layered findings. The lack of coordinated national policy intervention has shifted Sumatra's economic recovery trajectory from a creative recovery scenario to the risk of permanent structural economic loss.

First, there is a deep, prolonged contraction in regional GRDP. Losses amounting to IDR 68.6 trillion, equivalent to a 0.29 per cent decline in national GDP within less than one month, represent a highly significant economic contraction. More concerning, however, are the multiplier effects that extend far beyond the emergency phase: the disruption of 866 bridges and 2,165 road segments has caused prolonged dysfunction in distribution chains, suppressing production capacity and value-added activities across the affected provinces. From the perspective of Solow's growth theory, natural disasters destroy physical capital and diminish the quality of human capital. (Samudera, 2025), while from a Schumpeterian perspective, disasters reduce levels of creativity, thereby hindering innovation. In the absence of strong national policy intervention mechanisms that should have been activated through the declaration of a national disaster, the recovery of GRDP to pre-disaster levels is expected to take significantly longer than it would have under an optimised state response.

Second, there is an erosion of regional investment and the obstruction of policy-driven recovery. Applying the theory of creative destruction within the context of disasters suggests that regions with high-quality institutions tend to experience accelerated economic recovery and may even surpass pre-disaster GDP levels. In contrast, regions with weak institutions face structural economic decline. Socially, regardless of institutional quality, affected regions experience worsening poverty, inequality, and human development outcomes. This finding is highly

relevant: the absence of a national disaster declaration effectively weakens institutional response capacity by restricting access to facilitative mechanisms stipulated in Government Regulation No. 21 of 2008, including cross-agency resource mobilisation, procurement flexibility, and unified command structures, all of which are essential for accelerating reconstruction and restoring investor confidence. Recovery decisions taken hastily, while certain areas remained isolated, prevented a comprehensive assessment of recovery needs, leaving unresolved the critical question of whether the scale of disaster recovery across 51 districts/cities in Sumatra required a dedicated agency, similar to the BRR Aceh-Nias established after the 2004 tsunami. (Lassa, 2025).

Third, there is pressure on employment and regional inflation, disproportionately affecting vulnerable groups. The government's response to the Sumatra floods has largely been reactive, failing to address systemic governance weaknesses. There is a clear need for the government to internalise development ethics grounded in environmental, social, and governance (ESG) principles by reassessing policies that encourage excessive exploitation. The absence of a centralised policy-driven recovery framework has resulted in uneven labour market recovery, heavily dependent on the limited fiscal capacity of regional budgets. Meanwhile, disruptions to food and essential goods distribution chains have triggered localised inflationary pressures, disproportionately burdening the most affected populations. When disasters recur without adequate fiscal responses, economic growth tends to slow while public debt increases. As fiscal space diminishes, a vicious cycle emerges: governments are compelled to borrow more, debt risks escalate, interest costs rise, and ultimately, insufficient funds remain to support recovery efforts. (A. Ilham, 2023).

Fourth, there is a loss of opportunity for long-term ecological-economic reform. The most strategic consequence of the absence of a national disaster declaration lies in the closure of opportunities to reform the ecological foundations of Sumatra's economy systematically. The Minister of Forestry, Raja Juli Antoni, has pledged a comprehensive evaluation of forest governance, acknowledging that policy orientation has historically prioritised economic interests over ecological sustainability. Environmental advocates have urged that this commitment be realised through halting extractive industries in upstream and critical watershed areas, alongside comprehensive ecosystem restoration based on environmental carrying capacity. From a *Maqasid* perspective, *ḥifẓ al-nafs* and *ḥifẓ al-bī'ah* remain under systemic pressure due to energy and climate challenges, necessitating more holistic policy interventions aligned with *Maqasid* dimensions. Without a national disaster declaration mandating a comprehensive evaluation of environmental policy, such structural reforms risk remaining merely rhetorical and politically symbolic.

Overall, the findings indicate a close relationship between delayed disaster intervention, weakened welfare protection, and increasing regional economic vulnerability. The absence of coordinated national response mechanisms affected both humanitarian protection and post-disaster recovery capacity, thereby intensifying long-term socio-economic risks within affected regions. These are not merely correlated but causally interconnected: the absence of a national disaster declaration acts as a mediating variable that weakens state response capacity, which in turn slows economic recovery and deepens violations across all dimensions of *al-Kulliyyāt al-Khams.*

Integrating *Maqasid al-Syarī'ah* into economic planning can help ensure that economic growth is not solely material-oriented but also incorporates ethical and spiritual values. The

incorporation of Islamic principles into development agendas provides a more comprehensive and sustainable framework. This perspective further ensures that the protection of wealth *(ḥifẓ al-māl),* religion *(ḥifẓ al-dīn),* and transparent governance are not merely institutional requirements, but deeply rooted principles intrinsically connected to *Maqasid al-Syarī'ah.*

There are four normative-economic implications arising from the government's inaction on policy in the 2025 Sumatra flood case. First, from the perspective of *fiqh siyāsah*, the delayed disaster response may be interpreted as a limitation in fulfilling the state's obligation to ensure comprehensive public welfare protection. The prolonged recovery process also increased economic vulnerability among affected communities, particularly lower-income groups and small-scale economic actors. In addition, limited evaluation of environmental policy may increase the risk of similar disasters recurring in the future, thereby affecting broader dimensions of socio-economic resilience and sustainability. Second, the deficit in *ḥifẓ al-māl* resulting from delayed economic recovery represents a *mafsadah* that ought to be eliminated rather than tolerated under the pretext of fiscal limitations. Third, the risk of permanent economic loss threatening Sumatra, particularly affecting the most vulnerable groups such as people with low incomes and smallholder farmers, constitutes a form of distributive injustice contrary to the principle of *'adālah* (justice), which lies at the core of *al-siyāsah al-syar'iyyah*. Fourth, the absence of environmental policy evaluation, as a consequence of not declaring a national disaster, opens the possibility of similar disasters recurring in the future, a prospect that directly threatens all dimensions of *Maqasid al-Syarī'ah* simultaneously.

Conclusion

This study demonstrates that the absence of a national disaster declaration during the 2025 Sumatra floods represents a significant governance challenge with juridical, humanitarian, and economic consequences. Although the disaster substantially met the indicators stipulated in Law No. 24 of 2007, the absence of national disaster status limited coordination, delayed resource mobilization, and weakened the effectiveness of recovery efforts.

From the perspective of *Maqasid Syariah*, policy inaction generated multidimensional deficits affecting the protection of life (*ḥifẓ al-nafs*), wealth (*ḥifẓ al-māl*), intellect (*ḥifẓ al-'aql*), lineage (*ḥifẓ al-nasl*), religion (*ḥifẓ al-dīn*), and environmental sustainability (*ḥifẓ al-bī'ah*). Economically, delayed intervention contributed to prolonged recovery, increased regional vulnerability, and the risk of long-term socio-economic losses.

The study contributes to the literature by conceptualising policy inaction as a form of disaster governance failure and integrating disaster governance, regional economic recovery, and *Maqasid Syariah* within a single analytical framework. In practical terms, the findings highlight the need for a more responsive and welfare-oriented disaster governance system that incorporates *Maqasid Syariah* as a policy evaluation framework.

This study is limited by its reliance on secondary data and focus on a single disaster case. Future research may develop comparative studies and quantitative indicators to measure *Maqasid*-based disaster governance and post-disaster resilience across different regions.

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Author Contributions Statement

The authors developed the concept of this research through an interdisciplinary approach integrating perspectives from law, economics, and *Maqasid Syariah*. The processes of collecting information and documents, interpreting the research findings, and preparing the manuscript were carried out collaboratively by all authors according to their respective areas of expertise. All authors have read, reviewed, and approved the final version of the manuscript before publication.

Conflict of Interest

This research was conducted without any conflict of interest, whether financial, institutional, or personal, that could influence the objectivity, interpretation, or findings presented in this article.

AI Usage Statement

The use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) in this research was strictly limited to supportive functions, such as language editing, grammar checking, and improving the manuscript's clarity and readability. AI was not used to generate core ideas, conduct substantive analysis, interpret data, or formulate scholarly conclusions. The entire content, arguments, data validity, and academic integrity of this article remain the full responsibility of the authors.

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