

Review

Relocating or retaining the capital city of Jakarta—Evaluation the feasibility, sustainability, and strategic planning of Indonesia in facing the challenges of relocating the national capital from a multidimensional perspective

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Abstract: The debate on relocating Indonesia's national capital from Jakarta stems from critical issues such as overpopulation, social inequality, environmental degradation, and natural disaster risks. These challenges highlight the need to reassess Jakarta's viability as the nation's administrative center. This study evaluates Indonesia's readiness to address the complexities of relocation by analyzing Jakarta's socio-economic, political, cultural, and geographical conditions. Using a systematic literature review (SLR) with a qualitative approach, the research explores key questions: Do Jakarta's conditions necessitate relocation? What challenges might arise from the move? How prepared is Indonesia to tackle these challenges? The SLR process includes defining questions, sourcing literature from reputable databases, applying inclusion/exclusion criteria, and synthesizing data for analysis. Findings reveal Jakarta's multifaceted challenges, including social disparities, environmental degradation, disaster risks, and governance issues, which emphasize the urgency of considering relocation. However, the study also identifies significant hurdles, such as high costs, logistical complexities, potential social conflicts, and environmental risks at the new capital site. Relocating the capital is a strategic and complex undertaking that requires meticulous planning. Indonesia must weigh Jakarta's current issues, address potential relocation challenges, and ensure readiness for risk mitigation and sustainable development. Comprehensive and thoughtful planning is essential to achieve a successful and balanced transition.

Keywords: relocation of the capital city; Jakarta; Indonesia; feasibility; sustainability; strategic planning; SLR

1. Introduction

The relocation of the national capital is a strategic decision that can affect various aspects of a nation's life, both in the short and long term. The decision to relocate the capital is often driven by complex factors, such as the inadequate capacity of the existing city infrastructure, uneven regional development, and pressing social, economic, political, and environmental issues. The relocation of the capital is not just about administrative relocation but also an effort to create a more efficient and sustainable system of governance and to support the equitable distribution of national development. Thus, the relocation of the national capital is a process that involves profound multidimensional considerations.

The relocation of the national capital of Indonesia has become a crucial topic in recent years, especially after President Joko Widodo officially announced the plan to move the national capital from Jakarta to a new capital named Nusantara, located in Penajam Paser Utara Regency, East Kalimantan Province. As the national capital, Jakarta has long faced various chronic problems, such as severe traffic congestion, high air pollution, and a deteriorating environmental quality that is increasingly concerning. In addition, Jakarta also experiences immense pressure in terms of population density and significant socio-economic inequality. These problems are exacerbated by Jakarta's geographical conditions, which are vulnerable to natural disasters, especially floods, and the threat of land subsidence that continues to occur due to the high rate of urbanization and uncontrolled development.

Amidst these increasingly complex problems, the decision to move the capital to Nusantara has emerged as a strategic step to reduce the burden on Jakarta while also realizing the vision of a more equitable and evenly distributed development across all regions of Indonesia. Nusantara, located in the central area of Indonesia, has several advantages, including a more strategic location, which is closer to the geographic center of Indonesia, as well as significant potential for developing a new economic zone that can reduce financial dependence on Java. However, the relocation of the national capital is a complex process. Several multidimensional challenges must be faced to ensure the success and smooth transition of this national capital relocation, both in social, economic, political, cultural, and geographical aspects.

From a social perspective, the relocation of the capital city will influence the demographic structure and patterns of population migration, with the potential for significant social shifts, both in Jakarta and Nusantara. Integrating communities from various regions of Indonesia with the local communities of East Kalimantan will undoubtedly present its challenges. In the economic aspect, although the relocation of the capital city can create opportunities for new infrastructure development and job creation, significant risks are associated with the very high costs and the fair and efficient distribution and allocation of resources. The political aspect is also crucial, as the relocation of the capital city can influence the distribution of power, governance, and existing bureaucracy. Meanwhile, from a cultural perspective, the relocation of the capital city will bring about changes in social interactions, cultural values, and the city's identity as the center of the country's political and economic activities. The geographical challenges that must be faced are related to the natural characteristics of the Nusantara region, which is located in an area prone to natural disasters such as floods, earthquakes, and forest fires. The basic infrastructure needed to support the sustainability of this new capital city, such as transportation, energy, clean water, and sanitation, must be built with due regard to sustainability and disaster resilience. In addition, relocating the national capital requires serious attention to the long-term environmental impact, including natural resource management, ecosystems, and climate change mitigation efforts.

Based on the above description, this study aims to evaluate Indonesia's feasibility and readiness to address the multidimensional challenges related to relocating the national capital. The research employs a multidisciplinary approach encompassing five main dimensions: social, economic, political, cultural, and geographical. The evaluation is conducted through a systematic literature review, drawing on national

and international research findings focused on capital relocation and related studies. This study seeks to provide a comprehensive overview of the potential challenges Indonesia will face in the process of relocating its capital, as well as the extent to which the country is prepared to address these challenges. The key questions this study aims to answer include: What are the multidimensional conditions of a national capital that make relocation necessary? In the context of these multidimensional conditions, has Jakarta's current state ceased to meet the suitability standards as a national capital, thus necessitating relocation? What multidimensional challenges would a country face when relocating its capital? And is Indonesia prepared and capable of overcoming these challenges?

The literature review in this research will be divided into several parts that systematically examine relevant studies. First, the basic theory on the relocation of the national capital will be discussed, covering the various reasons and objectives behind this decision and its implications for the structure of government and national development. Second, this research will examine case studies of the relocation of the national capital in other countries to understand the challenges and opportunities these nations face. Third, an analysis will be presented on the current condition of Jakarta as the national capital, which no longer meets the suitability standards, and how these factors influence the decision to relocate the capital. Fourth, this research will examine the readiness aspects of Nusantara in facing the challenges of developing a new capital city, both in terms of infrastructure, socio-economic equity, and environmental sustainability. Overall, this research aims to significantly contribute to studying national capital relocation and evaluate Indonesia's feasibility and readiness to relocate the capital to Nusantara. The findings of this research are expected to provide valuable recommendations for the Indonesian government's policies in planning and implementing the successful and sustainable relocation of the national capital.

2. Methods

This research uses a multidimensional perspective to evaluate Indonesia's feasibility and capability in facing the challenges of relocating the national capital from Jakarta to Nusantara, covering the social, economic, political, cultural, and geographical aspects. The approach used in this research is qualitative, using a systematic literature review as the primary method for data collection and analysis. The qualitative approach was chosen because this research aims to understand the phenomenon of national capital relocation in-depth and holistically. This approach allows researchers to explore various perspectives related to the multidimensional challenges that Indonesia will face in relocating its capital. In addition, the qualitative approach provides freedom to explore and analyze relevant literature, from academic research to international studies, that can provide in-depth insights into the issues being studied. Researchers can qualitatively explore national capital relocation's social, economic, political, cultural, and geographical dimensions. This requires understanding a broader context and cannot be measured solely with numbers or quantitative data. This approach also allows for analysis of the narratives, arguments, and perspectives generated from the diverse literature sources.

The Systematic Literature Review is an appropriate method for this research, given that the primary purpose of this research is to collect, evaluate, and synthesize the findings of previous studies relevant to Indonesia's national capital relocation. SLR is a method that organizes the search and analysis of literature systematically and transparently to generate comprehensive, detailed, and evidence-based conclusions. SLR also reduces bias in the selection and processing of literature and ensures that only the most relevant and credible literature is used in the research. The SLR procedure in this research will be carried out using the following steps.

2.1. Determining the research objectives and questions

The first step in SLR is formulating the research objectives and questions. In this case, the research objective is to evaluate Indonesia's feasibility and capability in facing the challenges of relocating its national capital from a multidimensional perspective. The main questions to be answered are:

- 1) What are the multidimensional conditions of a national capital that make it necessary to relocate the capital city?
- 2) In the context of multidimensional conditions, has the condition of Jakarta no longer met the standards of suitability as the national capital, so that the capital city must be relocated?
- 3) What are the multidimensional challenges a country will face if it plans to relocate the national capital?
- 4) Is Indonesia prepared and capable of addressing these challenges?

2.2. Establishing the literature selection criteria

The next step is establishing the literature selection criteria, ensuring that only relevant and quality literature is included in the review. The literature selection criteria in this research include:

- 1) Source criteria, academic articles, government reports, policy documents, books, and international publications discuss the relocation of the national capital, particularly in Indonesia, and comparative studies with other countries.
- 2) Time range criteria, meaning literature published within a specific period. In this study, literature published from 2000 to 2024 or the last 24 years will be used to ensure comprehensive, relevant, and up-to-date discussions on the relocation of the national capital.
- 3) Relevance criteria, meaning literature that discusses the multidimensional challenges in the relocation of the capital, including social, economic, political, cultural, and geographical aspects.
- 4) Credibility criteria, meaning literature from credible sources, such as indexed scientific journals, government reports, or international organizations with a good reputation.

2.3. Literature search

After establishing the selection criteria, the next step is to conduct a literature search using various academic databases such as Google Scholar, JSTOR, ProQuest, and Scopus. Researchers will also search for relevant literature from sources such as

Indonesian government policy reports, publications from international institutions, and official documents related to the plan to relocate the national capital of Indonesia. This search process will be conducted using appropriate keywords, such as “relocation of Indonesia’s national capital”, “feasibility of capital relocation”, “challenges of capital relocation”, “Nusantara”, “Jakarta” and “comparison of national capital relocation”.

2.4. Literature selection and filtering

After collecting several literature sources, the next step is selecting and filtering based on the established criteria. Researchers will assess each piece of literature based on its relevance and the quality of the methodology used in the research. Literature that is irrelevant or does not meet quality standards will be discarded, and only literature that provides sufficient in-depth insights into the challenges of capital relocation will be selected for further analysis.

2.5. Literature analysis and synthesis

The researchers will critically and systematically analyze the selected literature at this stage. This analysis includes understanding the key findings in each article or report and identifying the key concepts and recurring issues. After that, the researchers will synthesize the analysis results from various literature to provide a more comprehensive picture of the challenges of relocating Indonesia’s national capital. This synthesis process will also identify gaps in existing research and provide recommendations for further study.

2.6. Writing the synthesis results

The literature analysis and synthesis results will be presented as a narrative that provides a clear picture of the feasibility and challenges of relocating Indonesia’s national capital. This writing will organize the findings based on five multidimensional perspectives: social, economic, political, cultural, and geographical. Each dimension will be analyzed separately and then combined to provide an overall picture of the challenges that will be faced.

2.7. Formulation of recommendations and conclusions

After conducting the analysis, this study will conclude whether relocating Indonesia’s national capital to Nusantara is feasible, considering the challenges in each dimension. Based on the research findings, the researchers will provide recommendations on the necessary steps to overcome these challenges and identify aspects that require further attention in planning and implementing the capital relocation.

3. Results and discussion

After analyzing and synthesizing various literature, the questions in the research have been answered one by one, from the multidimensional conditions that require the state to move the country’s capital to the conditions of the capital city of Jakarta, which are relevant to the multifaceted conditions of the capital that require the state to move

the capital, challenges and opportunities if you want to or are moving the country's capital, and the feasibility and ability of Indonesia to move the country's capital from Jakarta to the archipelago. The results are presented below in a comprehensive and in-depth manner.

3.1. Multidimensional conditions requiring a country to relocate its capital city: From the context of social, economic, political, cultural, and geographical aspects

Relocating a country's capital city is not a decision taken lightly. A country typically considers the social, economic, political, cultural, and geographical conditions that drive the relocation of the seat of government. Each aspect is interconnected, and problems in one sector can lead to more significant tensions or losses if not appropriately addressed. The following is an in-depth analysis of the conditions that may compel a country to relocate its capital city based on these five aspects.

3.1.1. Social conditions requiring a country to relocate its capital city

Social conditions necessitating a country's capital relocation are often related to population imbalances and difficulties in providing adequate social facilities (Rossman, 2017). Overcrowded capitals can lead to severe traffic congestion, air pollution, a shortage of decent housing, and heavy burdens on healthcare and education facilities (Ishenda and Shi, 2019). As the population continues to grow without commensurate infrastructure, the quality of life for urban residents can decline. In such cases, relocating the capital can be a solution to reduce the social tensions arising from uncontrolled urbanization (Azhar et al., 2020). Social disparities in the old capital can also be a driving factor. In many countries, the capital becomes a hub of wealth concentration and uneven economic opportunities (Coronado, 2019). The elite living in the city center can enjoy a life of luxury, while most of the poor or middle-class population is marginalized in the city's outskirts. This social inequality can trigger tensions and conflicts between groups that feel neglected. Relocating capital to a more developed or isolated area can help level development and reduce social tensions that arise from injustice (Arundel and Wetterberg, 2012).

The relationship between the seat of government and the regional communities also influences social conditions. If the country's capital is too far from many other areas, the people in other regions may feel alienated and have limited direct access to the government. This can lead to dissatisfaction and a sense of being underrepresented in national policies (Lee et al., 2005). Relocating the capital to a more socially strategic location can increase the equitable interaction between the center and the regions and strengthen unity and inclusiveness (Potter, 2017). The social congestion can be exacerbated if the country's capital faces increasing security problems or social unrest. Large-scale demonstrations, riots, or ethnic and religious tensions often occur in concentrated urban centers (Patel and Burkle, 2012). Relocating the capital to a safer and more tranquil place can be a step to reduce these threats and create better social stability for the entire country (Ishenda and Shi, 2019). Excessive reliance on a single population center can also undermine long-term social resilience. When the capital is located in an area unable to support population growth sustainably, social problems

are further exacerbated. Relocating the capital can enable the country to create more equitable opportunities for the population in the new region and reduce the potential for tension between those living in the old capital and those outside its boundaries (Takyi, 2016).

As the capital city, Jakarta has experienced rapid urbanization and a significant increase in population. According to BPS data, Jakarta had more than 10 million residents in 2023, making it one of the most populous cities in the world. This uncontrolled urbanization has caused various social problems, including severe traffic congestion, a shortage of adequate housing, and increasing air and water pollution. Additionally, there is an apparent social inequality, with a significant divide between the elite living in the city center and the marginalized poor in the surrounding areas. The severe traffic congestion and poor air quality in Jakarta have disrupted the quality of life for the city's residents. For many, being trapped in traffic for hours has become a daily routine, while air pollution has increased respiratory illnesses and deteriorated the population's overall health. With the continued population growth, Jakarta cannot provide adequate public facilities, such as schools, hospitals, and green open spaces, to meet the needs of its community.

Based on the increasingly critical social situation of Jakarta as the nation's capital city, as well as a review of various literature, the relocation of the capital city is considered an effort to alleviate this social burden. By moving the seat of government to a more strategic location, it is hoped that there will be a more even distribution of the population outside of Jakarta, which in turn can reduce the pressure on infrastructure and improve the quality of life for the people. The new capital city is expected to reduce the social inequality reflected in uneven regional development.

3.1.2. Economic conditions requiring a country to relocate its capital city

One of the main reasons why a country decides to relocate its capital is the unsustainable economy that arises from the concentration of economic activities in a single location. The country's capital city often becomes the economic center, attracting investments, jobs, and skilled human resources. However, the concentration of economic activities in the capital city can also lead to significant problems, such as skyrocketing land prices, increasingly high cost of living, and increased operational costs for companies and the government. In the long run, this can hinder the development of other economic sectors outside the capital (Farida, 2021; Ishenda and Shi, 2019; Takyi, 2016; Чуркина and Zaverskiy, 2017).

Economic inequality between the capital and other regions is also a consideration. Most investments and resources are often allocated to develop the capital, while other regions lag in infrastructure, health, education, and the economy (Chu et al., 2018). Relocating the capital can be a strategy to encourage investment and economic growth in other regions that have previously received less attention. For example, by relocating the capital to a more strategic area, the country can open up new economic opportunities and balance development across regions (Rossman, 2017). Furthermore, relocating the capital can alleviate pressure on specific economic sectors, such as construction and property, which depend heavily on capital growth. By relocating the capital, the country can shift the focus of investment and resources to other sectors that may be more promising for the future. For example, a new capital city built with

a focus on the technology or creative industries sector can provide a new boost to the national economy and open up new opportunities in the global market (Černevičiūtė et al., 2019).

Economic sustainability is also related to infrastructure factors. A capital city located in an area that does not support adequate infrastructure development will face significant challenges in providing efficient accessibility for various industrial sectors and the community (Afanasyeva et al., 2020). Relocating the capital to a more strategic and better-prepared area in terms of infrastructure can reduce logistics costs, facilitate transportation, and accelerate the growth of key economic sectors (Zhang and Lu, 2010). In addition, relocating the capital can improve the efficiency of resource management. The new government center can be built considering efficiency aspects regarding energy distribution, transportation, and natural resources. This can improve the quality of life for the community and attract more domestic and foreign investment (Wang and Gao, 2018). The existence of a more efficient and environmentally friendly capital city can also attract more global companies wishing to operate in the country.

Economically, Jakarta has long been the center of Indonesia's business, industrial, and trade activities. As the largest and most economically important city, Jakarta contributes over one-third of Indonesia's Gross Domestic Product. However, the high economic concentration in the capital has created various problems. Land and property prices in Jakarta continue to soar, creating an imbalance in the housing sector and making it difficult for the lower-middle class to own decent homes. Meanwhile, Jakarta's economic dependence on specific sectors, such as banking, trade, and manufacturing, often makes the city's economy vulnerable to economic crises. The development of infrastructure in Jakarta, although extensive, is still inadequate to support rapid economic growth. Severe traffic congestion and the slow development of mass transportation have worsened economic efficiency. In addition, other sectors outside Jakarta still lag in infrastructure development and investment.

Based on the current economic conditions in Jakarta and a review of various literature, the reasons for the relocation of the national capital should have been addressed. The relocation of the capital is expected to stimulate economic development outside of Jakarta and reduce dependence on the sectors that have already developed too much in the capital. The capital relocation can also open up new opportunities for economic diversification outside Jakarta, especially in technology, tourism, and the creative industry. By placing the capital in a region with untapped potential, the government hopes to reduce the economic gap between Jakarta and other regions in Indonesia, create new economic centers, and accelerate more evenly distributed economic development.

3.1.3. Political conditions requiring a country to relocate its capital city

The relocation of the capital city is often influenced by political factors that affect the stability and management of the government. One condition that can necessitate the relocation of the capital is political instability in the old capital. If the capital is located in an area prone to conflict, such as regions experiencing ethnic or sectarian tensions or even areas involved in political disputes, moving the capital can be considered a step to reduce threats to the country's stability (Kamal, 2022). Shifting

the seat of government to a safer location can minimize the potential for conflict and maintain the continuity of government administration (Rohrs, 2000). Furthermore, the relocation of the capital can be part of an effort to reduce the centralization of power in a single point. When the capital is too dominant, there is often a high concentration of power at the center of government, which can reduce the effectiveness of regional governments (Beramendi, 2003). The relocation of the capital can be a decentralization measure that encourages more efficient and representative governance and strengthens regional autonomy. This can also improve the political relationship between the center and the regions (Rossman, 2017).

Another political challenge is the legitimacy of the government. The relocation of the capital, if well-planned, can strengthen the government's political legitimacy if the step is seen as a progressive move in the country's development. On the other hand, if capital relocation is carried out hastily or without transparency, it can trigger public distrust in the government (Junaidi et al., 2020). A capital relocation process that does not involve public participation or appears to be solely in the interests of certain political elites can lead to protests or rejection from various groups (Fatehi and Derakhshan, 1997). Conversely, suppose it is carried out with thorough planning and broad public discussion. In that case, the relocation of the capital can become a symbol of positive political reform and enhance the government's legitimacy in the eyes of the people (Mkrtchyan, 2017). In addition, the relocation of the capital can also serve as an effort to improve the country's political image, especially if the country is in a significant transition from an authoritarian regime to a democracy or post-conflict (Junaidi et al., 2020). The capital relocation can be seen as a step to demonstrate the government's commitment to change and renewal and an effort to unite various previously divided groups. By choosing a new location that is more inclusive, the government can affirm its intention to pay attention to diversity and ensure more just and transparent governance (Betria and Raju, 2018).

Regarding politics, Jakarta has become a dominant center of power in Indonesia. Political power and national policies tend to be concentrated in the capital, creating a sense of alienation among other regions. The imbalance between the center and the regions has created political tensions, with many regions feeling neglected by the policies made in Jakarta. This often worsens the relationship between the central and regional governments and can even trigger political dissatisfaction. Furthermore, Jakarta also faces political challenges in terms of stability. As a city with a very high and diverse population density, Jakarta often becomes the site of social protests and political demonstrations. Increasing social tensions, especially those related to economic and social inequality, often center around the capital.

Referring to the increasingly critical political conditions of the capital city of Jakarta, the relocation of the capital can be seen as a strategic step to reduce the concentration of political power in Jakarta and distribute power to other more neutral regions, thereby reducing the potential for tension and strengthening regional autonomy. The relocation of the capital city can also strengthen the political representation of other regions. The new capital can become a symbol of change and more inclusive policies, where the interests of all regions in Indonesia can be better accommodated. This can also help create a more efficient government by bringing the decision-making center closer to various regions, not just focusing on Jakarta.

3.1.4. Cultural conditions requiring a country to relocate its capital city

Regarding culture, the relocation of a capital city is often associated with considerations to create a more inclusive and representative symbol of a country's cultural diversity. A capital city located in a particular region may not be able to reflect the ethnic, religious, or cultural diversity that exists across the entire country (Takyi, 2016). For example, a capital city dominated by a single ethnic or cultural group may be perceived as not representing the nation's population, so moving the capital to a location more representative of the country's diversity can help alleviate tensions between groups.

The relocation of the capital city can also be an opportunity to build new cultural symbols that are more modern and open (Potter, 2017). For example, the new capital can be designed with an architecture that reflects a more progressive national identity, respecting traditions while accommodating future aspirations. The new capital can become a place where various cultural elements of the country can interact, with public spaces and culture designed to bring together people from diverse backgrounds (Ghalib et al., 2021). However, a major cultural challenge is preserving the cultural heritage of the old capital. Often, the old capital has immense historical and cultural value to the country, and a sense of loss can emerge among the population if the old capital is abandoned (Ning and Tian, 2012). Therefore, the government must think of ways to preserve and utilize the cultural heritage of the old capital while developing a new identity in the new capital. This can be done through the construction of museums, the maintenance of historical sites, or cultural celebrations that combine old and new values (Boussaa, 2017).

The culture of Jakarta is highly diverse, reflecting Indonesia's multi-ethnic and multi-religious character. However, as a rapidly developing capital city, Jakarta also faces challenges in maintaining its local cultural identity. Many ethnic and cultural groups living in Jakarta feel marginalized within the social and cultural structure of the city, which prioritizes economic development and modernization. This cultural imbalance creates a sense of alienation among certain groups not represented by the dominant culture.

Based on these conditions and a review of various literature, relocating the capital city could present an opportunity to design a more culturally inclusive government center. In the new capital city, it is hoped that public spaces and cultural symbols will be more representative of Indonesia's ethnic and religious diversity. This can also allow regions outside of Jakarta to introduce their local cultures to the national stage, thereby enriching Indonesia's cultural identity. Furthermore, the relocation of the capital city offers the chance to build a more culturally friendly city by designing public spaces that better support social interaction, tourism, and the preservation of local culture. The government can construct more arts and cultural facilities and introduce policies that support cultural diversity and intercultural dialogue.

3.1.5. Geographical conditions requiring a country to relocate its capital city

Geographical aspects are a very important factor in the decision to relocate the capital city. One of the main reasons for moving capital is to avoid the risk of natural disasters. A capital city in areas prone to earthquakes, floods, or landslides can endanger the safety of citizens and the country's infrastructure (Taghvaei et al., 2016).

For example, suppose the capital is located along a geological fault line or in an area prone to flooding. In that case, moving the capital can be a preventive measure to reduce losses from natural disasters. Relocation to a more geographically stable location can reduce risk and enhance the country's resilience to climate change and unpredictable natural disasters (Hackbarth and Vries, 2021). Moreover, the relocation of the capital is often influenced by the need to create a more strategic center regarding accessibility and connectivity. A capital city located too far from economic centers or major ports can hinder the flow of goods and people. Relocating the capital to an area better connected to major transportation networks—such as highways, rail lines, or international airports—can improve the efficiency of government administration, logistics, and international connectivity (Arshed et al., 2019). This also allows the government to be more responsive in addressing evolving economic and political needs.

Geographical conditions also significantly influence natural resource distribution and land availability considerations. In many countries, the old capital may already be densely populated with limited infrastructure, and there is almost no room for further expansion (Rachmawati et al., 2021). Relocating the capital to more open areas with natural potential for industrial or agricultural development can create new opportunities to boost the economy (Gao et al., 2019). By choosing a strategic location for the capital, the government can create a city that is more efficient, environmentally friendly, and supportive of sustainable development (Mao, 2014). However, geographical factors also influence environmental issues. The construction of a new capital city, especially in largely undeveloped areas, can impact local ecosystems (Taki and Sunandar, 2021). Deforestation, changes in river flows, or disruption of natural habitats can occur during development. Therefore, the planning of the new capital must prioritize the principles of sustainable development that consider ecological aspects by utilizing environmentally friendly technologies and involving environmental experts in planning and implementation (Cazacu and Chitonu, 2018).

From a geographical perspective, Jakarta faces serious environmental and natural disaster problems. Jakarta is located in a lowland area vulnerable to flooding, mainly due to an inadequate drainage system and high rainfall. In addition, Jakarta is experiencing significant land subsidence due to excessive groundwater extraction and the heavy burden of infrastructure. This makes Jakarta increasingly vulnerable to the threat of flooding and potential environmental damage. This geographical condition is compounded by the risk of other natural disasters, such as earthquakes, that can shake Jakarta due to its proximity to the subduction zone. Meanwhile, global warming and climate change also exacerbate its vulnerability to rising sea levels. Therefore, the relocation of the capital to a more geographically safe and stable region can reduce the risk of disasters faced by the country's seat of government.

Furthermore, Jakarta is experiencing great difficulty in transportation management and mobility. This densely populated city heavily depends on private transportation, which causes severe traffic congestion. Although the government has tried to build mass transportation infrastructure, such as Mass Rapid Transit and Light Rail Transit, the rapid population growth and disproportionate infrastructure needs make it increasingly difficult for Jakarta to manage efficient mobility.

3.2. Multidimensional challenges of relocating the capital city: From the context of social, economic, political, cultural, and geographical aspects

The relocation of a country's capital is a major decision that involves various complex considerations from various aspects, both internal and external. Such changes impact the new and old cities and encompass the entire country. Below is an analysis and synthesis of literature related to the challenges in relocating a country's capital city, examined within social, economic, political, cultural, and geographical contexts.

3.2.1. The social challenges of relocating the capital city

In the social context, the relocation of the capital city often creates a significant transition for the population in both the old and the new capital cities. One of the main challenges is the mass relocation of people who may not be ready to move or adapt to this significant change (Chou et al., 2024). This relocation process requires adequate infrastructure, careful planning, and strong social support to ensure the community does not feel marginalized or isolated (Nalau and Handmer, 2018). The relocation of the capital city also often involves the creation of a new environment that may be more modern but must still be able to maintain the quality of life of the existing population. To this end, the government must ensure adequate health, education, and employment facilities and incentivize residents to adapt to the new capital city (Ghalib et al., 2021).

The success of the capital city relocation also heavily depends on social inclusivity (Azhar et al., 2020). If the relocation of the capital city only focuses on the elite or specific groups, it can exacerbate existing social inequalities. Therefore, community participation and transparent communication from the government are essential. This also includes maintaining social diversity and ensuring that the relocation of the capital city does not harm the groups already living in the area (Syafitri et al., 2021). Good socio-economic conditions must also be maintained in this relocation process, given its influence on the daily lives of the communities involved (Syafitri et al., 2021). Existing social inequalities can exacerbate social tensions if the government cannot manage resources wisely. The relocation of the capital city that does not pay attention to social aspects and community involvement can increase social polarization, undermining national stability (Campante et al., 2019).

The relocation of the capital city can also create positive social mobility, for example, by creating new jobs, increased access to public facilities, and the development of existing industrial sectors (Potter, 2017). However, if not planned carefully, the relocation of the capital city can lead to difficulties in social adaptation for marginalized groups (Ribeiro and Lago, 1995). Another challenge is addressing the social impacts of this relocation, such as increasing unemployment, poverty, or social conflicts between long-time residents and new arrivals. Therefore, the development of the new capital city must be balanced with an inclusive and welcoming social strategy for all segments of the population (Alene, 2021).

Socially, Indonesia's most significant challenges are the concentration of population and uneven development between Jakarta and other regions in Indonesia. Jakarta has long been a magnet for urbanization, leading to a rapid and uncontrolled increase in population. This has led to serious problems such as traffic congestion, pollution, social inequality, and unequal access to public services such as education, health, and housing. The relocation of the capital city to Nusantara is expected to

alleviate the social burden on Jakarta by promoting more equitable development in other regions. However, the challenge is how to relocate the center of government and economic activity in a way that does not exacerbate social inequalities. On one hand, the development of the new capital city must involve the local communities of East Kalimantan and its surroundings in the socio-economic process to prevent the emergence of new inequalities between the indigenous population and migrants from outside the region. The government must consider policies promoting social inclusiveness and community participation in development. If not, there is a risk of social tensions arising from the marginalization of certain groups. In this regard, although the challenges are significant, Indonesia has experience in managing large-scale development projects that can serve as a foundation to ensure that the relocation of the capital city benefits not just a select few.

3.2.2. The economic challenges of relocating the capital city

From an economic perspective, relocating the capital city is a long-term investment that requires substantial funds (Ishenda and Shi, 2019). The budget allocated for infrastructure development, public facilities, and the maintenance of the new city can be extensive, and it often takes a long time to realize the economic benefits (Rachmawati et al., 2021). The relocation of the capital city can affect economic growth in the short term, mainly if existing resources are divided between the construction of the new capital and other ongoing projects. Moreover, if not managed prudently, relocating the capital city can lead to a significant fiscal burden for the country, impacting national economic stability (Azhar et al., 2020). However, the relocation of the capital city also has the potential to have positive impacts, particularly in terms of equitable development. A new capital city can revitalize the economic sectors in regions that have traditionally lagged, such as the construction, transportation, and logistics sectors (Rossman, 2017). The relocation of the capital city can spur economic growth in the new region, which was previously underdeveloped, by increasing investment and creating job opportunities. However, to maximize these positive impacts, the appropriate policies must be implemented, such as providing incentives for investors and ensuring fair distribution of resources (Ma et al., 2022).

Additionally, the relocation of the capital city also risks exacerbating economic inequalities if the new capital city develops significantly more than other cities. This economic disparity can create tensions between the more advanced and lagging regions, increasing the government's burden in creating national economic stability (Chu et al., 2018). Therefore, equitable development must be a top priority when planning capital city relocation. The growth of the tourism sector also presents a new economic opportunity in the aftermath of capital city relocation (Pribadi and Utomo, 2021). A newly constructed capital city with a modern design and adequate infrastructure can attract both international and domestic tourists, which can, in turn, contribute to the country's revenue through the tourism sector. However, to avoid over-reliance on this sector, the economy of the new city must also be driven by other sectors such as manufacturing, technology, and services (Хуснутдинова et al., 2020). Overall, the main challenge in relocating the capital city is how to maintain a balance between the costs and long-term economic benefits. Appropriate financing and

sustainable development strategies are crucial to ensure that the relocation of the capital city can benefit both the state and the local community.

From an economic perspective, relocating the national capital is a project that requires substantial investment, estimated to reach hundreds of trillions of rupiah. Financing for the infrastructure and development of this new city will be a significant burden on the state budget. Amidst global economic uncertainty, especially in the post-COVID-19 pandemic and its impact on the Indonesian economy, the main challenge is realizing the development of the new capital without sacrificing national economic stability. Furthermore, Jakarta, as the economic center of Indonesia, contributes more than a third of the country's Gross Domestic Product, and many important economic sectors are concentrated in the capital. The relocation of the capital to Nusantara will undoubtedly lead to a shift in the pattern of economic distribution. One of the biggest challenges is ensuring that Nusantara's development can generate economic impacts comparable to Jakarta's without reducing the productivity of the existing economic sectors. However, the government plans to finance this project with the private sector and foreign parties. Indonesia has great potential to attract investment, particularly in the infrastructure and technology sectors, to support the development of the new capital. The natural resources of East Kalimantan, such as mining and energy, can also become economic potentials that support the development of the new capital. If appropriately managed, Nusantara could become a new economic center that is more diverse and integrated with technological and green industrial developments.

3.2.3. The political challenges of relocating the capital city

The relocation of the capital city certainly has a significant impact in the political context. This process involves a shift in the center of power that affects the relationship between the central and regional governments. One of the biggest challenges in the political aspect is how the government convinces all parties that the relocation of the capital city is the right decision, not just a political project that benefits a particular group. This process requires open political dialogue and transparency so no party feels disadvantaged or neglected (Hadi and Ristawati, 2020; Junaidi et al., 2020; Kiland, 2010; Trondal and Syafitri et al., 2021).

Bureaucratic politics also poses a significant challenge. The relocation of the capital city involves the transfer of many government institutions, including ministries and other state agencies (Junaidi et al., 2020). This can affect the efficiency of the government, given that significant adjustments are required in terms of organization, human resources, and policy flows. The government must prepare for this transition well so that public services are not disrupted (Ahmed and Aref, 2019). In addition, the success of the capital city relocation is highly dependent on the political stability in the country. If the domestic political situation is unstable, relocating the capital city could trigger political tensions and even increase public distrust of the government (Azhar et al., 2020).

The political aspect also involves considerations of legitimacy. Will the relocation of the capital city increase or reduce the government's legitimacy in the eyes of the people? Protests or opposition could affect the country's political stability if the relocation process is perceived as unwise or non-transparent. Therefore, the government needs to involve various elements of society in the decision-making and

planning process of the capital city relocation (Taghvaei et al., 2016). Furthermore, the relocation of the capital city can also influence the power dynamics between the regions and the center. Inequality in power distribution can occur if the new capital city becomes too dominant in determining the direction of the country's policies (Quistorff, 2015). Therefore, to maintain political balance, the relocation of the capital city must be accompanied by more inclusive policy reforms and bring decision-making closer to the local community (Junaidi et al., 2020). On the other hand, the relocation of the capital city also has the potential to reduce political tensions in the old capital city, especially if the old capital city is experiencing too much social or economic pressure. By moving the center of government, the old city can be focused on developing other sectors, such as culture, education, or tourism, which can create more excellent political stability (Al-Jawari et al., 2020).

The relocation of the national capital is related to technical and economic aspects and political dynamics. The decision to relocate the capital has sparked pros and cons among the public and politicians. Some see it as a strategic step to reduce the burden on Jakarta. In contrast, others view the project as a waste of the budget that would be better allocated to poverty alleviation or the development of other regions that need more attention. Another political challenge is ensuring political stability during and after the relocation. This large-scale project has the potential to cause public dissatisfaction, especially if people feel that the project does not bring direct benefits to them. Furthermore, the relocation of the capital could exacerbate political inequality between the center and the regions if it is not accompanied by intense efforts to strengthen decentralization and improve the quality of regional governance. However, Indonesia has a relatively mature democratic mechanism, with a decentralized government system and various channels of political participation. The government can optimize the public consultation process and political dialogue involving various community groups at the central and regional levels. So far, the government has taken several approaches, such as establishing the IKN authority and conducting public communication, indicating a readiness to manage this transition process more transparently and participatory.

3.2.4. The cultural challenges of relocating the capital city

The relocation of the capital city also significantly impacts a country's identity and cultural heritage. The old capital city often has deep historical and cultural value for the citizens. Transferring capital to another location can create a sense of loss or cultural shift for the community, which feels like it has lost a symbol of national pride (Logan, 2005). Therefore, the relocation of the capital city must be carried out with sensitivity to the existing cultural values. On the other hand, the new capital city can be an opportunity to create a more modern and inclusive national culture by combining cultural elements from all corners of the country (Rossman, 2017). This new cultural blend can create a new identity that is more representative of the diversity of the country's society. However, this requires mature cultural policies and the active participation of the community and various cultural groups (Yeung et al., 2013).

Another challenge is preserving the existing cultural heritage through historic buildings and traditions developed in the old capital city. The government must ensure that despite the relocation of the capital city, the existing local culture is preserved and

respected (Hung, 2020). Relocating the capital city must ensure that the old and new cultures coexist without conflict (Rossman, 2017). At the international level, relocating the capital city can also be an opportunity to introduce the country's culture to the international world. A new capital city built with innovative architecture and reflecting the country's cultural diversity can become a unique attraction for the outside world. However, this must be done carefully so as not to appear merely as image-building but as a fundamental step to advance the national culture (Ghalib et al., 2021). The relocation of the capital city can influence the dynamics of relationships between different cultural groups within the country. The transfer of the center of government to a new region can cause anxiety or tension between cultural groups that feel unrepresented or not getting enough attention. Therefore, cultural integration must be an important part of the planning and implementation of capital city relocation (Betria and Raju, 2018).

Cultural aspects also play an important role in relocating the national capital. Jakarta, with all its ethnic and cultural diversity, has become a melting pot for various groups from across Indonesia. The relocation of the capital to Nusantara will present a significant challenge in maintaining an inclusive cultural identity so that all ethnic, religious, and cultural groups feel respected and represented. Although rich in local culture and wisdom, East Kalimantan may not have the same history or proximity as Jakarta, the center of government and national identity. Therefore, the government must develop a capital city that reflects the diversity of Indonesia. This can be achieved by designing public spaces, cultural facilities, and state symbols representing all aspects of Indonesian culture, including the indigenous tribes of Kalimantan. The development of the new capital city must also consider the integration of local culture and the participation of the surrounding community in determining the direction of development. Without a culturally sensitive approach, the relocation of the capital could lead to resistance and dissatisfaction from the local community.

3.2.5. The geographical challenges of relocating the capital city

In the geographical aspect, the relocation of the capital city presents significant challenges related to location and surrounding natural conditions. The location selection for the new capital city must consider factors such as geological stability, accessibility, and infrastructure readiness (Taki and Sunandar, 2021). One of the reasons why a country decides to relocate its capital city is to avoid the risk of natural disasters that can threaten the old capital city, such as earthquakes, floods, or other environmental problems. The new capital city must be built in a safer area and have better access to natural resources and transportation (Kapiarsa et al., 2020). However, geographical challenges are also related to the issue of environmental sustainability.

The construction of a new capital city often requires massive landscape modifications, which can cause environmental damage (Zhang, 2018). Therefore, the planning of the new city must consider the principles of sustainable development by utilizing environmentally friendly technologies and ensuring that the area maintains biodiversity and air and water quality (Guo, 2012). Geography also plays a role in the development of the transportation system. A new capital city far from the leading economic centers or industrial areas will require significant investments in transportation infrastructure, whether roads, railways, or air transportation (Varis,

2006). Such geographical constraints can slow down relocating the capital city and increase unexpected operational costs (Li et al., 2019). The location of the new capital city must also consider population distribution factors. If the new capital city is located in a sparsely populated area, there is the potential for excessive urbanization, such as congestion and pressure on essential services (Li, 2016). Therefore, careful planning in distributing the population to various regions is also essential to create a balance between regions.

Overall, relocating the capital city requires in-depth geographical analysis to ensure the new location is safe and can potentially develop in the long term. The government must be prepared for the challenges related to geography so that the capital city can be relocated successfully without causing significant negative impacts on the environment or the lives of the community.

From a geographical perspective, Indonesia faces significant challenges in relocating its capital, particularly concerning natural disasters and climate change. Jakarta, located in a low-lying area prone to flooding and experiencing dramatic land subsidence, has become a strong reason for the relocation of the capital. However, Nusantara, located in East Kalimantan, has its challenges. Although safer from the threat of floods or earthquakes compared to Jakarta, Kalimantan has serious problems related to ecosystem degradation, deforestation, and the potential for other natural disasters. On the other hand, the new capital in East Kalimantan also provides an opportunity to develop a city based on sustainability and environmental friendliness, utilizing advanced technology to construct green infrastructure. The government plans to make IKN Nusantara a city based on renewable and environmentally friendly energy, which is a significant challenge and an opportunity to create a new, more sustainable development model. The abundant natural resources in East Kalimantan, such as coal and natural gas, also need to be managed wisely to ensure that the relocation of the capital creates a new modern city and does not damage the surrounding natural environment. Therefore, the geographical challenge relates to selecting a safe location and maintaining ecological balance during development.

4. Conclusion

The relocation of the national capital is a complex decision that involves many considerations in various aspects, such as social, economic, political, cultural, and geographical. Social imbalances, economic difficulties, political instability, and the need to embrace cultural diversity and reduce geographical risks often drive a country to relocate its capital. Relocating the capital can provide opportunities to create more efficient governance, equalize development distribution, and reduce existing disparities. However, the greatest challenge in this process is comprehensive and inclusive planning and implementation that considers long-term social, economic, and environmental impacts. The success of capital relocation largely depends on the state's ability to maintain political stability, embrace cultural diversity, and ensure sustainable development.

Jakarta has faced significant challenges that have compelled the government to consider relocating the national capital. Issues such as social inequality, excessive economic dependence on Jakarta, political power centralization, cultural tensions, and

vulnerability to natural disasters have become factors that have exacerbated the current conditions in the capital, Jakarta. Relocating the capital to Nusantara is not only about moving the seat of government but also an effort to balance development, create more efficient governance, and provide an opportunity for Indonesia to build a future city that is sustainable, inclusive, and safe from disaster risks. However, significant challenges remain, and the success of this capital relocation will significantly depend on thorough planning and the commitment of all involved parties. Although the challenges faced by Indonesia in relocating the national capital are immense, this nation has the potential to face them well. Indonesia has experience in carrying out large-scale projects and a mature government system with developed mechanisms of democracy and decentralization. The biggest challenge is to manage this transition efficiently and ensure that the capital relocation process can bring tangible benefits to Indonesia's people, not just a handful. The relocation of the capital to Nusantara must be carried out holistically by considering social, economic, political, cultural, and geographical aspects. If implemented with thorough planning, prudent management, and broad public participation, this project can be a step forward for Indonesia in creating more efficient, equitable, and sustainable governance.

5. Implications of findings

The study offers valuable insights into understanding the dynamics of capital relocation, mainly through a multidimensional approach. This study's findings are relevant to Indonesia and serve as an essential reference for other nations considering similar projects. By addressing economic, social, political, and cultural dimensions, this research provides strategic guidance on managing the challenges and opportunities arising from capital relocation. From an economic perspective, the study emphasizes that realistic and transparent planning is key to the success of capital relocation projects. Countries planning such initiatives must recognize that the costs are substantial, encompassing new infrastructure development, population relocation, and economic impact mitigation in the former capital. However, these significant investments can yield long-term benefits if planned carefully. For instance, economic redistribution and reduced regional disparities are opportunities that must be optimized. Thus, the findings remind other nations to balance the high costs with measurable strategic benefits through comprehensive economic analysis.

In the social dimension, the study highlights the potential for mass migration and demographic shifts resulting from capital relocation. These changes could lead to social conflicts or tensions between local residents and incoming populations in the new capital area. Other countries can learn from Indonesia about the importance of involving local communities in the planning and implementing such projects. Inclusive policies, such as training programs and social adaptation initiatives for affected communities, can help foster social harmony in the new capital region. Political aspects are also a central focus of this study. Political stability is a critical prerequisite for successful capital relocation. Other nations considering similar projects must learn that transparency in decision-making, public participation, and open communication are essential to avoiding resistance from the public and certain political groups. The study demonstrates that political legitimacy can be achieved

through a decision-making process involving diverse stakeholders, fostering broader support for the project. The cultural dimension provides equally valuable lessons. Relocating capital involves administrative relocation and significant impacts on cultural identity. The study underscores the importance of preserving cultural heritage in the old and new capitals. Other countries can take inspiration to design policies that respect cultural diversity and involve indigenous or local communities in the development process of the new capital. This approach minimizes negative impacts on cultural heritage while ensuring cultural sustainability. Additionally, the study reminds us that capital relocation planning must consider long-term sustainability. Other countries contemplating such projects can draw inspiration from Indonesia's approach to designing a new capital that is modern, environmentally friendly, and resilient to climate change. Sustainable infrastructure planning, such as using renewable energy, green transportation, and efficient waste management, should be integral to developing the new capital.

Overall, the study highlights that capital relocation projects involve technical aspects and complex socio-political dynamics. Through Indonesia's case, it becomes evident that capital relocation is a strategic project requiring multidimensional analysis to mitigate risks while maximizing opportunities. Other countries can adapt this approach to their local contexts, ensuring that every step aligns with the needs and aspirations of their people. Furthermore, the study underscores that the success of capital relocation depends on initial planning and continuous implementation and monitoring. Other nations must consider the need for an evaluation framework to measure the project's impacts regularly. In this way, capital relocation projects can become not only symbols of change but also catalysts for sustainable and inclusive development. By providing a comprehensive overview of the challenges and opportunities, this study is a critical reference for other nations seeking to undertake similar initiatives. Each country can leverage these insights to build a new capital that meets administrative needs and reflects values of equity, sustainability, and progress.

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