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NO ONE LEFT BEHIND: INCLUSIVE POLICIES FOR VULNERABLE AND AT-RISK GROUPS IN AN ERA OF DEMOGRAPHIC CHANGE

| BACKGROUND

As global demographics shift—through aging populations, urbanization, migration, and changing family structures—vulnerable and at-risk groups often remain excluded from the benefits of development and social progress. This session explores how inclusive policy design and innovative interventions can ensure equity for vulnerable and at-risk groups, such as the older persons, people with disabilities, migrants, indigenous populations, and gender minorities. With examples from diverse global contexts, the session offers actionable insights for building socially cohesive and inclusive societies amidst demographic transitions.

| OBJECTIVES

By the end of the session, participants will:

- Understand the differentiated impacts of demographic transitions on vulnerable and at-risk groups.
- Learn from real-world examples of inclusive policy innovations.
- Be equipped with practical tools and guiding principles to apply equity-focused thinking to policy design.
- Engage with global voices and perspectives on inclusive development.



Panelist

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Dr. Muhammad Hamid Zaman is an HHMI professor of Biomedical Engineering and Global Health at Boston University and the inaugural director of the Center on Forced Displacement at Boston University. He received his master's and P.h.D from the University of Chicago. In addition to six books and over 185 peer-reviewed research articles, Professor Zaman has written extensively on innovation, refugee and global health in newspapers around the world. His newspaper columns have appeared in over 30 countries and have been translated into eight languages. His most recent book, that came out in November 2025 is titled "Infected: How Power Politics and Privilege Use Science Against the World's Most Vulnerable". He has won numerous awards for his teaching and research, the most recent being Guggenheim Fellowship for his work on antibiotic resistance in refugee camps.