



Shared Prosperity Dignified Life



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INEQUALITY
STUDIES

Session 6: Can economic development benefit everyone?



Mona Atia

Mona Atia is Associate Professor of Geography and International Affairs and Director of the Institute for Middle East Studies at The George Washington University. She is a critical development geographer with expertise on Islamic charity, philanthropy, housing/urban development, the production of poverty knowledge and the spatial politics of marginalization. She is author of Building a House in Heaven: Pious Neoliberalism and Islamic Charity in Egypt (University of Minnesota Press, 2013) and her recent work has appeared in the journals Antipode, Cities, and Geography Compass. She is on the board of the American Institute for Maghrib Studies and MERIP.



Laia Masuhud Alamia

Laia Masuhud Alamia's career embodies a steadfast commitment to human rights and public service, with experience working across various sectors and advocacies. She champions social protection, notably advocating for the landmark law on Transitional Justice and safeguarding internally displaced persons (IDPs) in Bangsamoro.

Alamia is not only a lawyer but also a registered nurse. She holds a Master's Degree in National Security Administration, with a thesis focusing on transitional justice, and a Master's Degree in International Human Rights Law, with a thesis on child marriages—highlighting her dedication to addressing systemic vulnerabilities affecting women and children. Her leadership approach prioritizes empowering the marginalized and ensuring no one is left behind. She sets a powerful precedent for inclusive representation as Deputy Speaker and Member of the Bangsamoro Parliament.



Mazen A. Alzamel

Mazen A. Alzamel is the Deputy Minister for Social Security and Empowerment – Ministry of Human Resources and Social Development. He holds a Ph.D. in Financial Management from the University of York (United Kingdom), a Master's degree in Financial Sciences from Swansea University, and a Bachelor's degree in Computer Engineering from King Saud University. He has held several leadership positions, including: Deputy Secretary-General of the Economic Cities and Special Zones Authority, Deputy Governor for Revenue at the General Authority of Customs, and Assistant Mayor for Shared Services at Riyadh Municipality. He contributed to the development of various entities in the fields of digitization, finance, and management.



Hamoudy Ali

Hamoudy Ali is the Secretary-General of the Ministry of Social Affairs, Childhood, and Family. His previous positions include Secretary-General of the Ministry of Islamic Affairs, Advisor for Cooperation and Studies, and Director of Administrative and Financial Affairs. He has published numerous studies and research papers on topics such as military spending and development in the Arab world, tax policy in Mauritania, structural adjustment programs in developing countries (case of Mauritania), and indicative planning in France, as well as articles in local and international newspapers. He holds a Master's degree in Planning and Development from the University of Algiers and a Bachelor's degree in Economics from the University of Nouakchott.



Najet Dkhil

Najet Dkhil is a graduate of the National Institute of Labor and Social Studies in Tunisia. She currently serves as the Director General of Solidarity and Social Development at the General Authority for Social Advancement within the Ministry of Social Affairs. She oversees major programs, including the Social Safety Net Program for low-income and vulnerable groups, and leads the reform of the targeting system for monthly cash transfers, as well as the development of a database covering approximately 900,000 poor households. In 2020, she contributed to designing and formalizing child grant projects in collaboration with UNICEF and manages the economic empowerment program for disadvantaged groups. At the international level, she coordinates the \$700 million World Bank-funded Social Protection Project and various other initiatives supported by international partners such as the European Union.