

CITIES Supports MOPPA to Launch Awareness Campaign Around Decentralization

As part of the USAID-funded Jordan Cities Implementing Transparent, Innovative and Effective Solutions (CITIES) project's support to His Majesty King Abdulla II's decentralization plan, CITIES partnered with the Ministry of Political and Parliamentary Affairs (MOPPA) to support the launch of the ministry's decentralization awareness campaign. The campaign targets 18 remote communities and underprivileged groups in 12 governorates, providing them with access to key decentralization information in many cases for the first time.



H.E. Mousa Maita, Minister of MOPPA at the opening session in Irbid.



Minister of MOPPA H.E. Mousa Maita and USAID/Jordan DRG Office Director Sean Osner with the CITIES team during a youth center managers awareness session.

During the awareness campaign's launch event, held in Irbid under the patronage of Minister of MOPPA H.E. Mousa Maita, he stated in his opening remarks: *"The launch of the Decentralization and Societal Participation Awareness Workshops aims to achieve developmental balance in the Kingdom's governorates' and to further the democratic objective of increasing popular participation in local communities' decision-making process."*

In partnership with MOPPA, CITIES conducted three youth-focused awareness sessions in three regions, North, Center, and South, for youth center managers. The session held in the Northern Region had 117 attendees, of which 52 men and 65 women. In the Central Region, out of 114 participants, 43 were women. In the Southern Region, 94 individuals attended the session. CITIES also conducted seven sessions on Decentralization and Community Engagement and made available to participants printed copies of the decentralization law.



Participants engaging in a discussion on the decentralization law.

Given decentralization is a new concept in Jordan, CITIES also held information sessions to highlight the importance of community engagement for successful decentralization. The sessions opened up productive discussions with local communities on how to capitalize on this initiative.