

Cleanliness campaign creates job opportunities and improves the environment in five municipalities

The USAID CITIES Project is implementing a six-month Municipal Cleanliness Services Campaign in five municipalities: Greater Ajloun; Al-Dhulail; New Deir Al-Kahf; New Husainiyah; and Houd Al-Dissa. A total of 110 local workers and six supervisors have been employed as part of this campaign, including 26 women and seven people with disabilities. The new jobs have instantly impacted their lives by improving their financial situation.



Eman Salem, a cleanliness campaign worker from Greater Ajloun Municipality.

"My life changed after I started this job.

The salary helped me to cover my expenses. I found out about the cleanliness campaign through Facebook. After I started this job my life changed for the better. It is nice to see your country clean and I am happy about what I do. I never felt ashamed or embarrassed, on the contrary, most people encouraged us and praised our efforts.", said Eman Salem, a worker from Greater Ajloun Municipality.

New Husainiyah Mayor Mufleh Hamad Thiyabat witnessed the difference in the level of cleanliness in the municipality and praised the campaign saying: *"The municipal workers' efforts have had a significant, positive impact on the cleanliness of the municipality. We hope that their services can be extended as it will be difficult to maintain the same level of cleanliness after the campaign ends."*

Since February 2021, the campaign's workers have been cleaning streets and pathways, controlling grass and weeds, collecting and disposing of plant trimmings, and painting. Their efforts have received positive feedback from the community, instilling a sense of pride and encouraging the workers and supervisors to work harder to improve their communities and the environment.

Sayel Al Sabaheen, a community member from New Husainiyah praised the efforts of the cleanliness workers: *"I would like to commend the workers' clean-up efforts. I can see how valuable this opportunity is because it has made the environment better and cleaner. This initiative has given job opportunities for several workers, and it will result in cleaner streets and surroundings."*

The work of USAID CITIES on municipal service delivery and jobs creation is part of a larger collaboration between municipalities, the Ministry of Local Administration, and USAID to improve municipal services for citizens.