

Municipal Governments Respond to Community Demands for Recreational Facilities

In a beautiful spot overlooking a steep valley at Al-Ghweir Village, within Greater Karak Municipality, lies land that was once abandoned and used for disposing of trash and unwanted construction waste, according to Malek Al-Dmour, Head of Al-Ghweir Local Council. This was an environmental injustice to the surrounding residents. In response, Al-Ghweir's local council members saw a perfect solution in converting the space into a needed public park for their community. In fact, 23 municipalities supported by USAID identified the lack of local public parks and recreational space for youth and families as a prevalent factor impacting their communities' cohesion.

In response to community members' demands, USAID supported Greater Karak Municipality to furnish Al-Ghweir and two other parks with playground equipment. "Now," said Malek Al-Dmour, "you can see families coming from Al-Ghweir, and other surrounding villages to enjoy the park, with their children playing around on the slides and swings joyfully." USAID has also equipped a total of 13 public parks across the Kingdom to help the municipalities better serve and respond to their communities.



Families enjoying the play area at Al Ghweir Public Park in Greater Karak Municipality. Photo by USAID CITIES.