

MEPI Local Grants in Israel

The U.S.-Middle East Partnership Initiative (MEPI)

“If you want strong, successful countries, you need strong, vibrant civil societies”

The U.S.-Middle East Partnership Initiative managed by the Bureau of Near Eastern Affairs Office of Assistance Coordination at the Department of State, offers assistance support to groups and individuals striving to bring positive change in the MENA region.



MEPI partners with civil society organizations, community leaders, youth and women activists, and private sector groups to advance their reform efforts. MEPI has been active in the MENA region since 2003, supporting more than 1,000 grant projects administered by our offices in Washington, D.C., and Regional Offices in Rabat and Kuwait.

Local Grants: The Local Grants program serves as MEPI's most direct means of supporting local organizations, and its grants are designed to promote positive change, advocacy, and civic activism. The grants: Strengthen civil society; Support citizens' efforts at economic, social, and political empowerment; Expand opportunities for women and youth; and help communities work alongside governments in shaping their own futures.

Funding Opportunities: Local Grants range between \$100K and \$200K. Please visit our “Funding Opportunities” section at the [U.S. Embassy in Israel website](#) or at [MEPI website](#) to find out more about support opportunities.

2018-2020: Nine MEPI local grants in Israel

1. “Building Public Administration Capacity for Negev Bedouin Municipalities” implemented by AJEEC-NISPED to develop partnerships and coalitions to help municipalities leverage support from Decision 2397, and provide advisory services to communities' leadership in using funds efficiently for viable socioeconomic programs. Budget: \$209K

2. “The KamaTech Accelerator for Ultra -Orthodox (Haredi) Entrepreneurs” implemented by Tech Square aims to operate an accelerator program for Haredi entrepreneurs targeting the top 24 high potential start-up that need support in order to ‘make it happen.’ They will be mentored by a company in a similar business field, benefitting from professional workshops and demo-days. Budget: \$110K

3. “New Space”- The Establishment of a Technological Incubator for Space Industry & Nano Satellites in Arab Society implemented by SAMA Center for Technology Development will provide students professional training in space technology and building nano-satellites. In addition, 20 Arab engineering students will be recruited and receive

training to prepare them for their mentoring roles and to equip them with the necessary skills to obtain suitable employment. Budget: \$128K

4. “Creating Safe Communities in Arab Society” implemented by The Abraham Fund Initiatives aims to counter the escalating crime rates within Arab society and improve relations with the Israel National Police through working with local community leaders, to build their skills and capacity towards changing paradigms and to train them to act as points of contact between the community and newly established police stations. Budget: \$148K

5. “SPACE (School Performance and Community Empowerment) implemented by The National Project for the Ethiopian Community in Israel aims to provide the tools necessary for Ethiopian-Israeli 8th-12th grade students and their non-Ethiopian Israeli peers to become leaders in their schools and communities nationwide. A leadership council will be organized in each city with 10-20 participants. Budget: \$70K

6. “Strengthening Economic and Social Rights for Arab Women” implemented by Israel Women's Network in partnership with Na'am aims to increase awareness of Arab women's rights; aid services accessibility for Arab women and girls in distress at work place, by removing cultural, structural and other barriers; and implement a tailored gender education curriculum in high schools in Ramle and Lod. Budget: \$132K

7. “It's Your Community: Participate!” implemented by The Rights Center aims to support citizens, local civil society and local public officials in 11 recognized Bedouin communities in the Negev to equip them with the necessary tools to participate actively in the functioning of their communities by providing needed civic education to help build trust between and among the local citizens and decision makers. Budget: \$99K

8. “Diversity Works” implemented by itworks aims to increase awareness of diversity in the workplace as an engine for growth, create and enhance best practices in promoting diversity, values of inclusiveness and integration across the sector. In addition, itworks will build a syllabus on Diversity Works to be shared with higher education institutions. Budget: \$100K

9. “Ensuring the Full Implementation of Government Resolution 3780” implemented by Tsofen High Technology Centers aims to provide financial incentives for the construction of two high-tech parks in Arab cities, through collaborative work and outreach with the national government as well as through technical assistance to two municipalities. “Through the MEPI IREX Regional Assistance Program (RAP)”. Budget: \$88K

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2018-2019: Nine MEPI local grants in Israel

1. **“Building Public Administration Capacity for Negev Bedouin Municipalities”** implemented by **AJEEC-NISPED** to develop partnerships and coalitions to help municipalities leverage support from Decision 2397, and provide advisory services to the leadership of these communities in using funds efficiently for viable socioeconomic programs. Budget: \$209,213

2. **“The KamaTech Accelerator for Ultra -Orthodox (Haredi) Entrepreneurs”** implemented by **Tech Square** aims to operate an accelerator program for Haredi entrepreneurs targeting top 24 entrepreneurs, those who have the best potential and are in the process of launching startups, but are in need of various forms of support in order to ‘make it happen’. Entrepreneurs will be mentored by a company with a similar business field, benefit from professional workshops, and participate in demo-days. Budget: \$ 110,000

3. **“New Space”- The Establishment of a Technological Incubator for Space Industry & Nano Satellites in Arab Society** implemented by **SAMA Center for Technology Development and Building Nano Satellites in Arab**

Society in Israel will provide students (age 13-15) professional training in space technology and building nano-satellites. In addition, 20 Arab engineering students, or recent engineering graduates, will be recruited and receive training to prepare them for their mentoring roles and to equip them with the necessary skills to obtain suitable employment. Budget: \$ 128,150

4. **“Creating Safe Communities in Arab Society”** implemented by **The Abraham Fund Initiatives** aims to counter the escalating crime rates within Arab society and improve relations with the Israel National Police through working with local community leaders, to build their skills and capacity towards changing paradigms and to train them to act as points of contact between the community and newly established police stations. Budget: \$ 148,769.00

5. **“SPACE (School Performance and Community Empowerment) Youth Empowerment and Civic Engagement Program”** implemented by **The National Project for the Ethiopian Community in Israel** aims to provide the tools necessary for Ethiopian-Israeli 8th-12th

6. **“Strengthening Economic and Social Rights for Arab Women”** implemented by **Israel Women's Network** aims to increase the awareness of Arab women to their rights; increase accessibility of aid services for Arab women and girls in distress at work place by removing cultural, structural and other barriers; and implement a tailored gender education curriculum in high schools in Ramle and Lod. Budget: \$132,204

Budget: \$99,531

grade students and their non-Ethiopian-Israeli peers to become leaders in their schools and communities nationwide. A leadership council will be organized in each city with 10-20 participants. Budget: \$70,875