

Tostan

Dignity for All

Annual Report 2018



tostan.org

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Vision: Dignity for All

Mission: Tostan empowers communities to develop and achieve their vision for the future and inspires large-scale movements leading to dignity for all.

Values:

Love

Integrity

Respect and Humility

Learning and Innovation

Sustainability

Partnership and Dialogue

Passion and Pride in our Work

Cover Photo:
Woman smiling with her child
on her lap during the Linkering
declaration (Senegal, 2018)



Foreword



Many of you may not know the full background of our name, Tostan. The word “tostan” comes from the language of the Wolof people in West Africa. The renowned professor Cheikh Anta Diop (who has since become the namesake of the University here in Dakar), originally suggested the name to Tostan’s Founder, Molly Melching.

Cheikh Anta’s Diop’s work was wide-ranging, but at its core was a deep sense of the accomplishments and capacities of African people, which were often ignored or misunderstood.

We often translate it as “breakthrough,” but this doesn’t quite capture its essence. Cheikh Anta Diop suggested the word “tostan” because he said it captured perfectly the work that needs to be done throughout Africa—he said it was a word that not only implies the breakthrough of knowledge, as in the hatching of an egg, but also how knowledge can spread from one person to the next, from one generation to the next.

I love this name and the image it paints. Progress and growth are perpetual: in life there is always another breakthrough waiting to happen, another generation waiting in the wings. Molly has told me that Cheikh Anta Diop understood Tostan even before she did—that he sensed how powerful it would be to create an education program rooted in people’s own culture and experiences. He knew even then that this kind of work would be contagious, and that if given the chance, the communities of Africa could accomplish anything they put their minds to.

As you read through this 2018 Annual Report, I think you will see that what began as a simple concept has indeed hatched many times over. Breakthroughs are spreading to thousands upon thousands of communities in Africa, and increasingly to other parts of the world through the Tostan Training Center and our growing efforts to influence and support global efforts to improve wellbeing.

We also made major strides to advance the Tostan organization as a whole in 2018, including a strategic scaling design process we carried out through much of the year. This process allowed us to consider freshly how community needs, program impacts, and our global partnerships and potential can come together to scale community wellbeing. We are very excited to launch our new Strategic Engagement Plan in 2019.

In closing, whether you are reading this as a funder, a visionary partner, a community participant, a staff member, a volunteer, or as someone learning for the first time about our work, let me invite you to celebrate Cheikh Anta Diop’s vision by looking to the future and imagining together what beauty might break through when education, empowerment, and wellbeing reach global scale. Thank you so much for your role in Tostan, the organization, and for your role in “tostan” in the broader sense—the ongoing spread of wellbeing, rippling ever larger around the world to improve lives and welcome dignity for all.

Elena Bonometti
CEO
Tostan

2018 in Numbers

18,571 Community Empowerment Program (CEP) participants in 272 communities in five West African countries: Senegal, Guinea, Guinea Bissau, The Gambia and Mali

77% of CEP participants were women and girls

433 communities publicly declared the abandonment of Female Genital Cutting (FGC) and child marriage

At least **475** radio programs broadcast on the educational themes of the CEP

483 local conflicts resolved through Tostan's post-CEP module on Peace and Security

24,663 women leaders in Community Management Committees



Governance:

2,833+ birth certificates obtained for children in 2018

Approximately, **70%** of Community Management Committees are women-led

Education:

1,898 children enrolled in school thanks to Community Management Committee (CMC) activities

Health:

26,249 children vaccinated thanks to CMCs

Environement:

At least **3,700** health and sanitation clean-up days organized in 2018

More than **1,000** trees planted

Economy:

More than **1,550** people engaged in income-generating activities with the support of CMCs

60 CMCs opened bank accounts in 2018

150+ communities established their community development funds to help people save, invest and grow

2018 Breakthrough: A Revised Mission Statement

In 2018, Tostan revised its mission statement as part of a broader process of strategic reflection. In December the organization adopted a new mission statement:

Tostan empowers communities to develop and achieve their vision for the future and inspires large-scale movements leading to dignity for all.

Tostan's Global Strategy: Sharpening Focus in 2018

As Tostan's CEO Elena Bonometti arrived into her new position as CEO of Tostan in 2017, she was pleased to find a well-developed strategic vision captured in Tostan's Strategic Engagement Plan 2016-2022.



Spring Impact poses with community members during their field visit (Senegal, 2018)

"I found a strategic plan that one might expect in an organization so full of potential and so dedicated to programs. The SEP 2016-2022 was highly visionary and centered in the right place: helping more communities become empowered and more people live lives of dignity."

She also saw some risk, and a major opportunity. "I thought that without some additional clarity and focus, Tostan could be at the risk of its own success—with programs and potential becoming overwhelming rather than propelling the organization forward towards our vision of dignity for all. I felt that if we could get clearer on how we could get to bigger scale, Tostan could really make an important contribution in Africa and around the world."

With this in mind, Elena, the Board of Directors, and Tostan's leadership agreed that her arrival created an opportunity to complete a process of strategic review and reflection. The approach was straightforward, says Senior Advisor Gannon Gillespie: "We had already said in 2016 that we were going to be very open to asking strategic questions as they came. So we basically said 'let's keep 2022 as an end date, and let's take the existing SEP as a starting point but let's find ways to really push it further, to clarify and sharpen it, especially in how Tostan can reach significant scale.'"

In pursuing a clear definition of scale and mapping how to get there, Tostan wanted to make sure it was benefitting from the very latest in global thinking on scale and impact. After an extensive search Tostan selected Spring Impact, a leading agency specialized in scaling and social impact, to provide overall guidance and lead key parts of a process for sharpening Tostan's potential, and developing its scaling agenda.



Spring Impact visiting a community during their trip on-site (Guinea-Bissau, 2018)

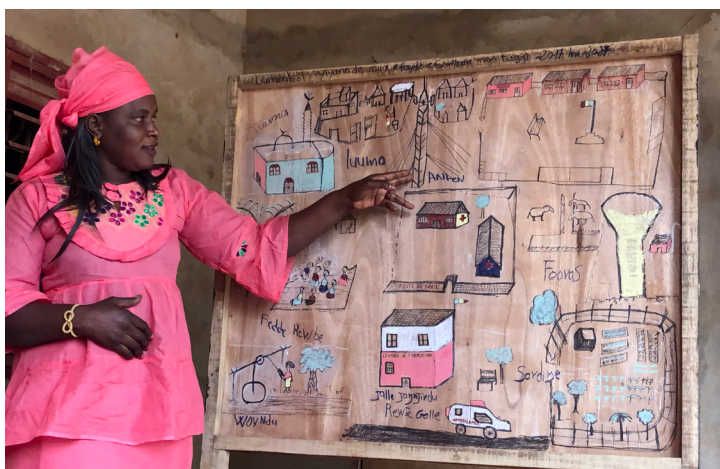
The in-depth process that followed took place throughout much of 2018. Tostan’s Executive and management teams worked together with a Strategic Support Committee of the Board of Directors as well as the Board more broadly, through a process facilitated by Spring Impact, to assess and revise this strategy. Each of these groups in turn brought in input and perspectives from a broader network of stakeholders.

Through in-person meetings, intensive workshops and constantly evolving collaborative documents, these different stakeholders contributed to both a broader strategic framework and specific scaling plans for each country.

Along the way Tostan revisited its mission statement (see above) and reaffirmed its vision and values. The organization also elevated a major new program innovation called Citizen Engagement for Sustainable Development to become a centerpiece of the new strategic period (see page 9).

Bonometti says she is seeing a lot of people excited by the prospect of launching a new Strategic period in 2019. “It is an exciting moment, as we turn a page and look forward. We are lucky to already have some momentum with recently announced partnerships that we were able to develop in line with the new framework. Now we move into finalization, publication, and the fun part—accomplishing our goals, getting to scale, and doing all we can to increase wellbeing in Africa and beyond.”

Our Programs and Projects in 2018



Community Empowerment Program

At Tostan we believe that every human being – woman, man, and child – has the right to human dignity. Our Community Empowerment Program has been implemented since 1991 and has empowered communities to improve their own lives.

Woman explains her community's vision for well-being (Senegal, 2018)

Our human rights-based, **respectful, inclusive, holistic and sustainable** approach strengthens individual as well as collective agency, and empowers communities to realize their own vision of well-being through dignified development. Our successes to date include the promotion of grassroots democracy, the enhancement of economic opportunities at a local level, and the emergence of female leadership in the community and local government. We have also witnessed an unparalleled movement for the abandonment of harmful traditional practices such as female genital cutting and child marriage in nearly 9,000 communities across West Africa.

In 2018, 18,571 participants—77% of whom were women and girls—participated in the CEP in 272 communities.

Number of Community Empowerment Program participants by country in 2018:

COUNTRY	# OF PARTICIPANTS
Guinea	3012
Guinea-Bissau	3269
Mali	3642
The Gambia	2850
Senegal	5798
TOTAL PARTICIPANTS	18571

“Both men and women now attend meetings where people express and defend their ideas before the others. I have to admit that this never happened before the program. It all changed during these past three years.”

— Focus group, randomly selected community men, Wendoumary

Throughout nearly 30 years of implementation, our program has demonstrated its holistic impact on partner communities by positively affecting governance, education, health, economy and the environment.

“It must be said that before Tostan’s arrival, our health was not very good, and the village was unclean. But now we regularly sweep our houses and clear the garbage. And CMC member in charge of raising awareness around health regularly visits homes to remind patients that their next vaccination date is coming up. The clean-up committee also reminds people of the date of the next communal activity so that women can prepare for it. In the past, domestic toilets did not exist, people would go to the toilet outside the village. With Tostan, we have become more concerned about a healthier environment.”

— Woman participant, focus group, Sabre Sabre

Illustrating the power of Community Management Committees

Tostan’s Community Empowerment Program goes beyond classes. The program promotes the establishment of Community Management Committees (CMCs) which are responsible for implementing development projects designed by the community. Made up of 17 democratically-selected members of which 9 are women, and trained by Tostan, CMCs take forward the community’s vision for sustainable development and work with partners, as well as others, to meet their needs.

Throughout 2018, Community Management Committees (CMC) in Senegal oversaw a range of critical areas. Their coordination and support led to 3,324 children under the age of five receiving vaccinations, 596 children enrolling in school, 1,239 community clean-up days being held, and 1,028 children receiving official birth certificates.

In Mali, the CMCs organized 836 community clean-up days and mobilized their communities to organize the enrolment of 740 pupils into formal education, and the birth certificate registration of 724 children.

CMCs in The Gambia organized 600 community clean-up days and ensured birth registration of 644 children. Furthermore, 378 children were enrolled in school thanks to their efforts, and 265 women were selected for local leadership positions.

Families from CEP-hosting communities in Guinea built 956 improved wood stoves, which burn more efficiently and greatly reduce deforestation and wood-gathering time. Thanks to awareness-raising efforts by CMCs, 880 children aged 0-5 years received polio vaccinations and communities organized 130 public clean-up days.

In Guinea-Bissau, CMCs organized 924 community clean-up days and 645 activities to promote health in communities. CEP participants adopted 2,541 learners to share knowledge learned during class, following Tostan’s organized diffusion method.

Our Featured Breakthrough of 2018

Citizen Engagement for Sustainable Development (CESD):

A Program Innovation that is rapidly redefining Tostan's programs—and its global strategy

When asked about Tostan's latest—and rapidly expanding—breakthrough, Tostan Founder and Creative Director Molly Melching doesn't mince words. "Looking back over my four decades working to improve wellbeing here in Senegal and across Africa, this really may be the single most exciting thing we've ever done. As we see it emerging I get goosebumps. I really see how it is truly transformational—for communities, for governments, for how development gets done."

What Melching is so excited about: Tostan's Citizen Engagement for Sustainable Development programming model, which adds new content as well as a broader programming framework that is fundamentally changing how Tostan thinks about scale, impact, and partnerships.

At its core, the CESD framework complements the CEP by doing three main things: 1) Supporting local governing councils, made up of citizens elected by the local population, to incorporate citizen voices in decision-making processes and thereby increase responsiveness to people's priorities at the grassroots level. 2) Sensitizing government and institutional actors at all levels on the importance of good governance, transparency and accountability and helping them to engage their roles more effectively; and 3) Training CMCs on strategies for effective grassroots advocacy and engagement with decentralized government and sectoral services.

Using the District as the programming unit, Tostan continues to focus on community empowerment and also aims to improve the functioning of decentralized governance structures. It undertakes training of the Councils of the *Collectivités Territoriales* (CT), enabling them to fulfill their roles and responsibilities in ways that are consistent with human rights as well as the sustainable development goals and which have greater correspondence with the vision and action plans of the Community Management Committees (CMCs) in their territory.

"It can be a bit hard to understand at first given all the different structures and rules around local governance," says Tostan Board Member and Tostan Canada Co-Founder Gail Kaneb, who visited a program pilot village in 2018. "Yet at the core it's very simple. The Senegalese government started moving resources and the power to determine how those resources would be spent down to the local level some years ago. But those funds were not always used in a way that was beneficial or equitable to the communities they were meant to serve. During my visit I noted that training Community Management Committees in how to advocate for themselves, and at the same time, training elected members of district council in their roles and responsibilities, made a real difference. District council members applied the newly acquired knowledge and skills to prepare participatory plans and budgets that account for the health, education and local development expressed by the communities. They also raised and began to address the issues of transparency and accountability that are key for ensuring the appropriate use of resources. The combination of the Community Empowerment Program with this new CESD framework has the potential to be an absolute gamechanger – an opportunity to simultaneously reinforce community efforts and local governance and lift up entire districts."

An initial pilot undertaken in 2017 and 2018 demonstrated the CESD’s potential to amplify and sustain the impact of Tostan’s work. Participating communities and elected officials alike gave positive feedback. The organization also took note of the ongoing expansion of efforts to decentralize government resources taking place across West Africa and beyond, underscoring the deeper potential of the CESD framework.

In 2018, Tostan decided to integrate the CESD framework fully at the highest levels—including in the organization’s emerging Strategic Engagement Plan 2019-2022. “We feel very fortunate that this arose just as we were really seriously mapping where to go next, what scale would look like for Tostan,” said CEO Elena Bonometti. “This new framework offers a way to take all of the successes emerging in our partner communities and amplify them with new resources, new visibility, and a much better shot at long-term sustained impact. In the end we decided to make this the centerpiece of how we look at our strategy and our model going forward.”

Tostan’s Monitoring and Evaluation Specialist Mady Cisse says that the CESD innovation is different than other recent innovations at Tostan. “Many of our recent developments have been about what content we are working on with communities. For example our Peace and Security and Reinforcement of Parental Practices program additions (please see pages 11 and 12 respectively)—these are new educational topics and they have lots of teaching innovations, but they mostly build upon the traditional Tostan CEP program and they extend out directly from how it has always worked. The CESD framework does add new content to the CEP, but it also adds a new dimension at every level of our programming. We are thinking in entirely new ways about scale and geography, and about how we partner with communities, decentralized structures of governance, sectoral services and other development partners.” He also notes that the CESD framework includes exciting new potential for data and its use. “With our programming aligned to the governmental systems we can also reinforce the collection and use of local data. It creates a powerful opportunity for communities, government agencies, local organizations and larger organizations like Tostan—everyone—to have a shared understanding of what is really happening.”

Melching notes that the stakes couldn’t be higher. “So many efforts have been made in recent years to support good governance, community development, and programs like Tostan’s. And recently governments have been putting even more resources and more authority to their local systems. We have such a wonderful opportunity right now to roll this out to a whole district, to a whole region, and create a model for how you can bring all actors working for wellbeing together around common goals, and really accelerate and measure change across large areas rather quickly.”

Woman holds human rights card in Loubol community (Senegal, 2018)



Reinforcement of Parental Practices:

Fostering early childhood development

The Reinforcement of Parental Practices (RPP) Module was launched in March 2013 after a successful pilot program in 2012. It aims to consolidate knowledge acquired during the Community Empowerment Program by strengthening the positive early childhood development practices of parents and community members, in an effort to create an environment conducive to child development.

The project, implemented in close collaboration with the Ministry of Education of Senegal, has contributed significantly to the galvanization of some 462 School Management Committees and the training of 1,386 teachers and headmasters on creating ideal learning environments, helping to bring schools and families closer together and thus ensuring respect for the fundamental rights of the child throughout the community.

In 2018 Tostan's focus with the RPP model was to envision how it could best be scaled, as a part of its broader planning efforts and Tostan's new SEP 2019-2022 framework.

In 2018 Tostan's focus with the RPP model was to envision how it could best be scaled, as a part of its broader planning efforts and Tostan's new SEP 2019-2022 framework. "Our internal monitoring system registers increases in Early Childhood Development practices including mothers who maintain regular eye-contact with young children, especially during breastfeeding, caretakers who help young children reinforce critical reasoning skills by comparing size, color, and form of objects, and who explain images and read children's books with infants. There is also a decrease in using violence as a way of disciplining children," says Penda Mbaye, Senior Program Officer at Tostan. In 2017-2018 alone, the RPP directly engaged 7,200 community members whose social mobilization and advocacy efforts have reached villages where at least 144,000 community members live, of which at least 72,000 residents were under the age of 18. "We know that the first 3 years of children's lives are critical to their long-term development. In order to ensure that children reach their full potential, in a region which holds 6 of the world's top 10 countries with the highest birth rates, there is an increasing need for an Early Childhood Development model like Tostan's, that will holistically address the various barriers millions of West African children face so that their tomorrow can start today," Penda added.

"We have not actually supervised our children in the past, in addition to inflicting corporal punishment on them regardless of the fault they committed. We did not communicate enough with our children by inspiring them with the right character so that they would stop their nonsense. The children spent all the time in the water ponds. But today our mentality has changed positively."

— Woman participant,
focus group, Sabre Sabre



Mother reading to her children in their local language (Senegal, 2018)



Women having a discussion on peace and security during the Kolly Kunda interzonal meeting (The Gambia, 2018)

Peace and Security Project: Promoting peace and resilience in conflict-prone regions

Mamadou Diao, a 57-year-old father of seven children, lives in Sare Modou Diao in The Gambia. He credits the Peace and Security Project with helping him to resolve a longstanding conflict with his brother.

“For more than seven years, I was in conflict with my younger brother. He had wanted to take over my part of our family compound while I was living elsewhere. This disagreement escalated when he drove away my two wives, who had been living and working in my part of the compound. As soon as I found out, I went straight to the police without talking to anyone beforehand. He was soon arrested and ordered to repay my family’s losses. After his release from jail, he left the village and moved to Fatoto [a nearby town] without contacting me.

“When Tostan’s Peace and Security Project came to the village, my friend asked me to participate in the sessions. **Those sessions gave me new insight into the role that peace plays in families and in the wider community,** which made me regret what I had done to my brother. If I had known then what I do now, I would not have made such a quick decision.

“In November, the community entrusted me with a position on the Peace Committee. From there, I felt compelled to take the initiative to go to my brother, ask for his forgiveness, and bring him back to his family. **This process of reflection and reconciliation after several years of estrangement was made possible by what I learned from Tostan.”**

Since February 2018, Tostan has been implementing the Peace and Security Project in 40 communities in the border zone covering The Gambia, southern Senegal and Guinea-Bissau. These 40 communities have previously taken part in the Community Empowerment Program, and the project aims to reinforce conflict prevention and management skills learned in the CEP through additional classes over a period of six months. As a result, community-led structures known as peace committees emerge to lead and strengthen peace-building and human security at the community level. These are composed of men and women who are trained on conflict prevention and resolution techniques. They develop action plans to prevent inter- and intra-community conflicts such as marital conflicts, land disputes, farmers and herders, and raise awareness on sources of conflict such as cattle theft and the management of natural resources.

The Peace and Security’s overarching ambition is to strengthen the resilience of civil society in this conflict-prone region of West Africa. In 2018, there were 2,128 participants to the project, of which 70% were women.

Prison Project: From dignity in prison to social reinsertion

Tostan's Prison Project was launched in 2003, and supports detainees in 6 prisons in Senegal to strengthen their life skills and reintegrate into their communities, through their participation in a modified version of the CEP, family mediations and income-generating activities.



Former detainees showing the products they have on sale (Senegal, 2018)

In Senegal, female prisoners are regularly stigmatized by their communities and families. The lack of awareness of the challenges faced specifically by women in detention and the high levels of social rejection make it very difficult for them to re-establish themselves once they leave prison. Ivonne Diouf is one of several women supported by Tostan in Diakhay, Dakar. By bringing Ivonne and her family together through telephone mediations, and raising awareness amongst influential people from her community including the local priest and the neighborhood chief, Tostan helped Ivonne to be accepted back in to her community upon release. Following a Tostan training in the processing of local fruits, vegetables and cereals, Ivonne was able to launch her own business and in turn become an example for other local women by training them in her newly acquired skills. Instead of facing stigmatization and isolation, Ivonne is now an active and influential member of her community.

Tostan has led 9398 mediation sessions by telephone for current and former detainees.

Promoting Child Protection: Reducing forced child begging

Tostan's work on child protection aims to strengthen the capacity of communities to provide protection for children and prevent violations of children's rights. Over the years, our work in Senegal on the protection of children often focused on improving the situation of Talibé children by sensitizing local communities and Koranic schools on the challenges encountered when sending children away, and the need to protect children's right to education and growth in a safe environment. Through our intervention, communities have come together to protect their children and advocate to local governments for the allocation of funds to support this initiative.

With our partners, Anti-Slavery International and Rencontre Africaine pour la Défense des Droits de l'Homme (RADDHO), our project is engaging more than 300 Koranic teachers, supported by the communities, in meeting the government's criteria for the modernization of daaras, by raising hygiene, health, and child protection standards, to promote better and safer conditions for the children who attend them.

Through our sponsorship system, over 3,000 talibés were supported by local families in the various project areas, ensuring their access to essential items such as soap, mosquito nets and sleeping mats.



Group photo of Tostan Training participants (Senegal, 2018)

Training on Empowerment Systems Through our Tostan Training Center

At the Tostan Training Center (TTC), Tostan hosts international training courses in English and French on its human rights-based approach to community-led development. Our education model has been consistently developed and updated in response to feedback from thousands of communities in West and East Africa over the past 28 years. Recognizing its proven positive effects for community-led development, an increasing number of community activists, members of local, national and international organizations and governments, as well as representatives from academia and the media expressed an interest in further information and training on the Tostan model. We developed a unique 10-day training that uses a participatory, learner-centered approach, drawing its strength from trainers with extensive experience implementing the Tostan Community Empowerment Program in rural Africa. Our training serves individuals and groups who share a commitment to human dignity, transformative learning, holistic empowerment, and collective action.

Data as of December 31st, 2018:

People trained to date: **469**

Trainings to date: **22**

Number of Countries of
origin of participants: **49**

In 2018, our training center has had:

11 trainings

246 participants from **29** different countries

132 women, **114** men

41 scholarships awarded by NORAD

3 scholarships awarded by the Book Club

13 sponsored participations by the
Orchid Project

Special Trainings in 2018

Orchid / Girls Not Brides
training with **12** participants
invited from each organization

3 trainings with Carter Center
with **20** participants each

1 training with ActionAid

“The Tostan training is an eye-opener, a treasure and a revelation that the universally-accepted human rights principles easily constitute an unshakable foundation of a sustainable and holistic model to human development and social transformation. And this model is easy. It is natural. It’s human. It is sustainable. It is cost effective. And it flows! In other words, it’s a movement! And we are in it! And we are on fire! We have been in it but now we are very well and firmly grounded! To me, it is a revelation! For centuries development implementers and funding organizations have been investing billions in the developing world while chasing to change a single or a few issues at a time. Tostan’s model shows that there is another way. A better way. And this does not mean that other organizations’ now have nothing to offer or that their experiences and successes sum up to zero. No, every organizations’ experience, goodwill and efforts to bring about social transformation counts. But Tostan’s model and its results helps create the opportunity to call the world back to the table to reconsider a very meaningful debate on how best holistic community development could be quickly, effectively, sustainably, achieved while still honouring human dignity.

And while this does not make it perfect, it gives the world an opportunity to test, interrogate it, explore it, pilot it, improve it and scale it and so give it back to the world a better gift. I am in this movement. And I am on fire! No one stops me!”

— Peter Nguura, AMREF Kenya (Feb-March 2018)

2018 TRAININGS

- **January and February:** 2 ten-day trainings for 46 religious and traditional leaders from Senegal (regions of Saint-Louis, Kolda and Sedhiou) and Mali (regions of Bamako, Yirimadio and Koulikoro). Focused on human rights, this training highlighted how they relate to the Muslim sacred texts as well as community-led development theory and practice
- **March:** 1 ten-day training, with 25 participants from NGOs across 13 countries (Somalia, Somaliland, Tanzania, Belgium, Uganda, Ireland, Kenya, Ethiopia, Germany, Gambia, Guinea-Bissau, USA and Senegal). Funded by Girls not Brides.
- **April:** 1 standard ten-day training, with 22 participants from 10 different countries and 18 different organizations
- **June, July, August** 3 special 12-day trainings with the Carter Center in Atlanta, Georgia, USA, with whom we have collaborated since 2015. One with National Chief Imams office in Ghana, 20 religious leaders, chiefs, and community organizers from Ghana. The other two with 20 participants each from Nigeria, including delegates from Nasrul-lahi-li Fathi Society of Nigeria (NASFAT), a Muslim prayer group with more than one million members worldwide, and the Muslim Student Society of Nigeria (MSSN).
- **August:** training for staff and local grassroots partners of the Senegalese branch of the NGO ActionAid, with 22 Senegalese nationals and one participant from Cote d’Ivoire.
- **November:** standard French training, 20 participants from 9 countries
- **December:** standard English training 19 participants from 11 countries



July's Carter Center training participants smiling as they head out to a field visit (Senegal, 2018)

Global Mobilizers

Global to local: Welcoming our supporters to partner communities

At Tostan, we aim to bring our supporters around the world as close to our partner communities as possible. While we enjoy telling the stories of breakthrough leadership we are witnessing through our programs, we truly value providing communities with the opportunity to tell these stories... **their** stories, in **their own voice**. Visits from our global mobilizers are often opportunities to do just that.



Sysser and Christine from Tostan Denmark with community members (Senegal, 2018)

- In March, Tostan board member Jan Christiansen along with Caroline Christiansen, Caroline Steiner and Marie-Louise Lüders, headed to Tambacounda in Eastern Senegal, where they visited villages that are currently participating in our Community Empowerment Program, as well as communities that participated in the program more than 7 years ago.
- In April we welcomed Sysser Philipson and Christine Pram to our headquarters in Dakar and the Tostan Training Center in Thies.
- As part of his third annual follow-up, Werner Blatter visited partner communities in the Tambacounda region of Senegal, on 14 to 19 October.
- Ahead of the December Board Meeting, Gail Kaneb and Kelly Hawke Baxter from Tostan Canada visited Medina Yoro Foulah in Senegal, and witnessed first-hand, the impact of our pilot Citizen Engagement for Sustainable Development program.
- At the start of December, partners from Tostan Sweden came to visit the programs they are supporting in northern Senegal.



Teresa from Tostan Sweden dancing during her visit in the Fouta region (Senegal, 2018)



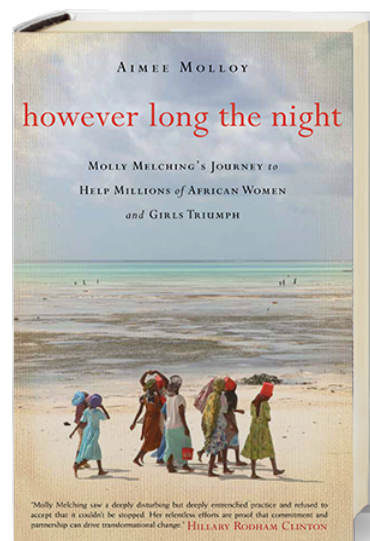
Women from Ari Koda dancing during a community visit (Senegal 2018)

However Long the Night: 5th anniversary special edition

However Long the Night: Molly Melching's Journey to Help Millions of African Women and Girls Triumph by writer and journalist Aimee Molloy, shares our founder's personal experiences that brought her to Africa in the 1980s, the inspiring people she has met along the way, and why she decided to stay.

The book brings to life the story of the origins of Tostan and introduces the communities that played a critical role in molding our program into what it is today.

In 2018, a fifth anniversary special edition was released, with a foreword written by Melinda and Bill Gates in which they call the book "required reading for anyone who wants to learn about how to make change."



Molly Melching Fund for Human Dignity Fund Total: \$1,350,000.

The Molly Melching Fund for Human Dignity equips Tostan to move powerfully into the future, supporting the transition to new leadership and the healthy growth of cross-cutting and groundbreaking Tostan programs, including the expansion of Tostan's Community Empowerment Program in December 2017 into 150 new villages in 4 countries.

Supported by:

Ashoke Sathy
The David E. Reese Family Foundation
Diane & Michael Gillespie
Flora Family Foundation
The Greenbaum Foundation
Imago Dei Fund
The Jacquelyn & Gregory Zehner Foundation
James Family Foundation
Jane Olson
Karen Mercaldo
Ken Inadomi & Melinda Wolfe
Landry Family Foundation
Leslie Decker
The Lester Fund
The Long Road Foundation
Margaret Gada Slosberg Charitable Foundation
Mary Ellen Cunningham
Sally Epstein & Donald Collins
Tom & Gail Kaneb Family Foundation
The Wheeler Family

Tostan at Global Events:

- Skoll World Forum, April 2018, (Elena Bonometti, Molly Melching, Suzanne Bowles)
- Girls Not Brides, June 2018 (Suzanne Bowles, Yussuf Sané)
- Ms. Foundation Annual Supporter Event on Martha's Vineyard, August 2018 (Suzanne Bowles)
- Women Moving Millions summit, September 2018 (Kelly Hawke Baxter, Molly Melching)
- United Nations General Assembly, September 2018 (represented by Elizabeth Kountze)
- Hilton Prize Symposium and Laureates Meeting, October 2018 (represented by Elizabeth Kountze)
- Forum on Women, Religion and Power at the Carter Center (Penda Mbaye)
- Opportunity Collaboration Summit, October 2018 (Birima Fall, Suzanne Bowles)
- FGM conference in Ouagadougou, October 2018 (Khady Beye Sow, Rose Diop)
- Segal Family Foundation Meeting, October 2018 (Khady Beye Sow)



Tostan's grassroots innovation is driven by the generosity of individuals and foundations, an increasing number of whom make strategic support gifts. These unrestricted donations go directly to support our well-validated theory of change. In 2018 Global Mobilizers made 1,382 gifts of all sizes, constituting 29% of all funds raised! This generosity is marked by a deep trust and alignment with Tostan's leaders in West Africa. Your belief in us is a vital and joyful driving force, and the momentum is building.

Leadership Circle members offer multi-year strategic support to scale and sustain Tostan for greater impact.

Brian and Kelly Baxter
Cynthia Baxter
The Gem Foundation
The Greenbaum Foundation
Imago Dei Fund
Leslie Decker
The Long Road Foundation
Mary Ellen Cunningham
Orchid Project
Pathy Family Foundation
Planet Wheeler
Ripple Foundation
Tom and Gail Kaneb Family Foundation
The You Have Our Trust Fund

Tostan receives grants from many partners who build our capacity and drive our programs. An increasing number give strategic support alongside Global Mobilizers.

Anonymous
Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation
Branson Family Foundation
Cartier Charitable Foundation
Comic Relief via Anti-Slavery International
Donner Foundation
Flora Family Foundation
Fredrik Öhrn
HM Queen Silvia's Foundation
James Family Foundation
Joan and Lewis Platt Foundation
Johnson and Johnson
The Lester Fund
Mao Family Foundation
Margaret Gada Slosberg Charitable Foundation
Moxie Foundation
NORAD
Radio Sweden
Ray A. Hunt Foundation
Segal Family Foundation

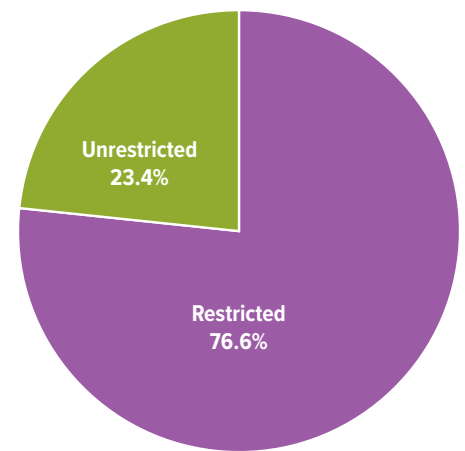
Snowbird Foundation
Social Investors, Partners for Social Impact
Susan Boggio
Svenska Petroleum Exploration AB
UNFPA Guinea
UNFPA Mali
UNFPA Senegal
UNICEF The Gambia
UNICEF Guinea
UNICEF Senegal
United States Fund for UNICEF
USAID via Partners Global
US Embassy in Senegal
Wallace Research Foundation
World's Children's Prize Foundation

Tostan Sister Organizations

Tostan Canada
Tostan Denmark
Tostan Sweden

Audited Financials

Total Income: **\$6,006,460**
Unrestricted: **\$1,405,474.14**
Restricted: **\$4,600,985.86**



Current Assets	2018 \$	2017 \$
Cash and cash equivalents	3,635,949	2,835,015
Investments	—	4,374
Grants receivable	3,662,581	4,624,864
Employee receivables	29,366	25,444
Other receivables and advances	208,672	8,484
Prepaid expenses and other assets	20,372	17,612
Total current assets	7,556,940	7,515,793
Property and Equipment	2018 \$	2017 \$
Land	271,433	271,433
Buildings and improvements	451,750	451,750
Furniture and office equipment	128,174	110,308
Computer equipment and software	289,674	344,792
Vehicles	310,591	298,598
Less: Accumulated depreciation and amortization	(945,851)	(942,711)
Net property and equipment	505,771	534,170
Noncurrent assets and grants receivable	1,442,133	2,602,819
Total assets	9,504,844	10,652,782
Current Liabilities	2018 \$	2017 \$
Loan payable		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	273,452	109,164
Total liabilities	273,452	109,164
Net Assets	2018 \$	2017 \$
Unrestricted	2,158,210	1,464,759
Temporarily restricted	7,073,182	9,078,859
Total net assets	9,231,392	10,543,618
Total liabilities and net assets	9,504,844	10,652,782
Expenses	2018 \$	2017 \$
Program Services	6,066,986	5,319,631
General & Administrative	1,079,964	1,024,643
Fundraising	408,503	296,276