

A photograph of a woman and two children in a doorway. The woman is wearing a blue headscarf with white polka dots and a patterned dress. She is holding a baby in her arms. A young child is standing next to her, holding her hand. The doorway is framed by a dark wooden door with a decorative cross-shaped cutout. The background is a light-colored wall.

# Tostan

Dignity for All

Annual Report 2021



## CONTENTS

<b>Opening Letter from the CEO</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Overview of Tostan in 2021</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Implementing Tostan's Program</b>	<b>5</b>
Impact of Tostan's Program	5
Strengthening Tostan's Programmatic Model	7
<b>Sharing Tostan's Model</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>Global Influence</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>Tostan's Funding Partners</b>	<b>14</b>
A Special Thank You: Celebrating Our Donors Across 30 Years	15
<b>Financials</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>Closing thoughts from Board Chair and Board Vice-Chair</b>	<b>16</b>



## OPENING LETTER

**Last year I shared five words that defined our year. This year, I have only one. Hope.**

Hope always enables us to look forward to what is possible; to what we can imagine and create together.

2021 was defined by the hope shown by partner communities across West Africa and in Tostan's partner networks around the world. So many people today inhabit a world in which COVID-19 has joined violence and volatility and a range of interconnected threats. Yet amid accumulating challenges, youth, women leaders and entire communities so often have offered a bright vision for the future, and brought joy and energy to what is possible.

As Tostan celebrated its 30 year anniversary in 2021, hope came to define how I see our organization's past, present, and future. Through contributions over many decades, the people of Tostan have woven the fabric of that hope. Tostan's staff and leadership teams, the facilitators of our program, founder Molly Melching, the Board of Directors, our partners, our funders—have all held on to a vision of hope and potential with tenacious patience.

Hope is a risk taken—a bet that the future will stand up and join you. Today, we feel our collective strength. We feel united in our commitment to centering everything we do on local leadership and working in local languages. To basing ourselves in the places and cultures where we work. To our commitment to comprehensive approaches that can create sustainable empowerment across complex systems of change. To our ambition of scaling community well-being.

That unity feels more important than ever given the difficulties our world faces. The rural communities of Africa will continue to be at the forefront of new challenges now joining those all too familiar. As Tostan considers its next strategic period from 2023-2030, we already know Tostan will continue to walk alongside those communities, and empower them to meet all those challenges. To do that well, we must invite not only hope but also resilience to walk with us.

In that spirit, it is an honor to share with the Tostan global community this Annual Report for 2021, as a record of the hope and resilience we witnessed this year, carrying forward three decades of work.

**Thank you for your partnership and for the many times your hope and commitment have inspired us, reigniting our own resolve.**

With warmest regards,

**Elena Bonometti**

# OVERVIEW OF TOSTAN IN 2021

## ABOUT TOSTAN

Tostan is a nonprofit organization headquartered in Senegal, operating in five West African countries and partnering with organizations across Africa and around the world. Its mission is to empower communities to develop and achieve their vision for the future and inspire large-scale movements leading to dignity for all.

Developed over the past three decades, Tostan's evidence-based empowering education model—the Community Empowerment Program (CEP)—directly supports the scaling of community well-being through a relevant and practical education in local languages. Supported by a well-trained, community-hosted local facilitator, the three-year curriculum contains numerous innovations developed over the years with human rights as the cornerstone of its approach. Post-CEP modules include Reinforcement of Parental Practices, Peace and Security, and a recent innovation on Strengthening Democracy and Civic Engagement.

Today, Tostan provides empowering education programs to tens of thousands of youth and adults each year, shares key aspects of its model with other national and international development and government partners through the Tostan Training Center in Thiès, Senegal, as well as convening global partners and thought leaders around the potential of empowering education to bring about community well-being and dignity for all.



## 2021 HIGHLIGHTS



**26,985**

CEP participants in **407** communities in five countries

- **66%** of CEP participants are women and girls
- **1,498** neighbouring communities reached through CEP participant outreach activities



**7**

public declarations held by **590** communities in Senegal, Mali and Guinea Bissau to announce their decision to abandon harmful traditional practices



**1,082**

local elected officials from Senegal, Guinea and Guinea Bissau trained on Strengthening Democracy and Civic Engagement



**667**

children from Senegal and Guinea trained to actively participate in Children's Municipal Councils



**216**

participants from 15 countries trained at the Tostan Training Center



**105**

government and CSO partner participants trained in Tostan seminars held in Nigeria

## TOSTAN STAFF

**382** Community Facilitators

**259** Country Administrative and Program Staff

**45** Tostan International Staff



Public Declaration in Fouta, Senegal, June 2021

## IMPLEMENTING OUR PROGRAM

### IMPACT OF TOSTAN'S PROGRAM

Results from Tostan's program inspire hope in the potential for the CEP to generate an even greater impact in scaling community well-being. A recent evaluation ([\*initial findings\*](#) and [\*qualitative data analysis\*](#)) of Tostan's multi-donor funded project, the Breakthrough Generation Initiative (2017-2020) in Mali, The Gambia, Guinea Bissau, and Guinea demonstrated that:

- Communities made decisions to change harmful social norms such as female genital cutting that limit well-being;
- Women took on new roles, and increased their voice and influence in their communities;
- Participants effectively spread new ideas and knowledge to other communities as part of Tostan's "organized diffusion" strategy;
- Communities developed increased capacity to design and take actions to lead their own development.

The evaluation revealed a clear shift on critical issues impacting community well-being across the four countries:

- **IN THE GAMBIA**

an increase of **43%** to **81%** of women who said they expressed their ideas during community meetings.

- **IN GUINEA**

a reduction from **94%** to **3%** of people who would approve of female genital cutting being performed on a relative's daughter.

- **IN GUINEA BISSAU**

a reduction from **78%** to **6%** in respondents who would approve of the marriage of a girl under 16.

- **IN MALI**

a reduction from **84%** to **10%** of respondents who would approve of corporal punishment to discipline children.

The achievements from the Breakthrough Generation Initiative are among the many examples of hope and resilience we share from across Tostan's partner communities where, in 2021, Tostan reached 26,985 participants in 407 communities in five countries.



## THE GAMBIA

### SCALING UP THE CEP TO THE CENTRAL RIVER REGION

“It has been a fantastic year”, **Edrisa Keita, Tostan’s The Gambia National Coordinator** shared. “I started work with Tostan in 2006 and in 2021, we reached a scaling milestone of extending the CEP to the Central River Region for the first time. I was particularly touched by the feedback Tostan received from the **Honorable Governor, Sheriff Abba Sanyang of the Central River Region.**” He said:



*I have worked with many institutions but in the 12 months Tostan has been here, I have never seen such an impactful program intervention. It is transforming people’s understanding of critical issues affecting their lives and empowering them to mobilize and initiate actions to solve them. Communities are now approaching different government service sectors to share their needs. Tostan’s program is building the capacity of people to rethink what they previously believed was impossible.*

## GUINEA-BISSAU

### COMMUNITIES LEADING COLLECTIVE ACTION TO PROMOTE WELL-BEING

**Yussuf Sané, Tostan’s Guinea Bissau’s National Coordinator** shared: “This year I am proud of Tostan’s work to support 1,080 community leaders in 120 communities in the Bafatá Region to collectively act to reduce disease transmission, vaccinate children, and improve awareness about the importance of education. Everyday I am inspired by the communities we work alongside.” **Salimato Baldé, Health Officer of the Saré Coba Community Management Committee** shared that with new skills and knowledge, communities are transforming their lives. She noted:



*With Tostan’s program, we have much better hygiene in our community. Now, instead of sharing our living and cooking spaces, we have built 14 huts to keep the kitchen and cooking equipment protected and clean. This is already reducing the transmission of germs and illness in the community.*

## MALI

### COMMUNITIES DECLARE THEIR INTENT TO ABANDON FEMALE GENITAL CUTTING

**Moussa Diallo, Tostan Mali’s National Coordinator** began his professional journey with Tostan in 2010 and is passionate about seeing women and girls thrive in a safe environment. “The most memorable moment of 2021? For me it was the public declaration held by 127 communities in Wolomé, with the intent to abandon harmful traditional practices. As with the other 633 community declarations which have taken place since 2013, I was really impressed by the level of engagement amongst communities and of local and national actors around the event.” **Wadidié Founé, Minister for the Promotion of Women, Children and the Family** attended the ceremony. She stated that:



*This community declaration demonstrates the importance of involving communities in the process of changing social norms. Through community dialogue, it is possible to transform ‘negative’ social norms into ‘positive’ ones.*

## STRENGTHENING TOSTAN'S PROGRAMMATIC MODEL

Tostan's empowering education model is in constant evolution and innovation, over time leading to a broader and more holistic program. In 2021, highlights include Tostan's most recent innovation to the CEP—the module on Strengthening Democracy and Civic Engagement (SDCE), as well as Tostan's economic empowerment program, offering hope to communities impacted by COVID-19. New partnerships are providing opportunities to adapt and integrate further content into Tostan's Reinforcement of Parental Practices module and Tostan's fistula prevention and treatment program.



Pulaar woman at Public Declaration in Aly Woury, Senegal

## STRENGTHENING DEMOCRACY AND CIVIC ENGAGEMENT

Tostan's SDCE module enhances community capacity to advocate and collaborate with local governments in pursuing a collective vision of well-being. It also builds the capacity of local elected officials in decentralized government structures to better manage resources and carry out their community development mandates. First tested in eight districts across four regions of Senegal in collaboration with UNICEF in 2018, the positive results led Tostan to adapt and integrate the SDCE module in the four other countries where it currently implements the CEP—The Gambia, Guinea, Guinea Bissau, and Mali. In 2021, Tostan trained a total of 1,082 local officials in Senegal, Guinea, and Guinea Bissau on the SDCE module and 667 children in Senegal and Guinea to become active members of newly formed Municipal Children's Councils.

### GUINEA

DEEPENING THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN COMMUNITIES AND GOVERNMENT TO CREATE DIGNITY FOR ALL

"In 2021, Tostan Guinea implemented the SDCE module in 40 communities in the Faranah region," shared **Mouctar Oulare, Tostan Guinea's National Coordinator**.



*In just one year we supported the creation of Child-Friendly Local Communities by training 217 Mayors and District Councillors (including 44 women) on democracy and on the roles, responsibilities, and resources of local government under decentralization, as well as 213 Child Councillors (including 89 girls) on local citizenship. Also, 22 Councillors visited the District Seat of Medina Yoro Foulah to learn about Tostan Senegal's experience of good governance and engaging with communities, which was a great success.*

One training participant, **Issiaga Kourouma, sub-prefect in Manfran, Kissidou** shared:



*As well as the knowledge that was shared, in this training we were able to do in five days what the elders and the prefectural authorities have struggled to do in three years—to gather, reconcile, and bring elected officials in Manfran to work together. Thanks to this training, elected officials who had not spoken to each other in three years are engaging in open dialogue.*



Woman declaring the engagement of the communities to abandon harmful practices in Aly Woury, Senegal

## INCREASING ECONOMIC RESILIENCE AMONGST COMMUNITIES AFFECTED BY COVID-19 IN SENEGAL



*I am very proud of our work to strengthen the economic resilience of communities affected by COVID-19 in Medina Yoro Foulah and Ranerou. We are offering much needed hope through three types of financial support: microgrants, Community Development Funds and economic innovation grants.*

**Rose Diop, Tostan Senegal's National Coordinator** shared.

2,120 vulnerable households benefited from a micro-grant. One beneficiary, **Mariem Barry** stated:



*We were already struggling and then COVID-19 came and increased our difficulties. With this money, we have paid for our children's school books and enrollment fees. This grant has provided such relief for us.*

121 Community Management Committees were lent Community Development Funds of 1,000,000 CFA (\$1,600) providing seed capital for individuals and groups to create their own businesses." One beneficiary, **Hadji Ka**, said:



*I borrowed 50,000 CFA (\$79). With that I invested in a ram for 35,000 CFA (\$55) which I sold six months later for 55,000 CFA (\$87). With the profits I was able to buy all the necessary food supplies for the month of Ramadan.*

5 networks of Community Management Committee Federations are receiving larger scale investments in innovative projects to generate sustainable income. **Anta Ba, Coordinator of the CMC Federation Network in Bourouco - Ndorna** shared:



*Our CMC Federation Network has been officially recognized by the mayor. We received 8,000,000 CFA (\$12,600) for a cattle breeding project with technical support from the Regional Development Agency in Kolda to support the implementation of our project. We will do everything we can to ensure its success.*



## NEW PARTNERSHIPS

In 2021 Tostan initiated two new partnerships as part of its holistic strategy to bring community well-being to scale through the integration of new content into the Reinforcement of Parental Practices (RPP) module, as well as into its fistula prevention and treatment program.

### INNOVATIONS IN EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT

Tostan first piloted the RPP module in 30 communities in 2012, with the aim of creating a more supportive environment to strengthen children's mental and physical development. Since that time, Tostan has scaled this post-CEP module, which reinforces early childhood development practices, to 430 communities in Senegal. In 2021, Tostan initiated preparatory activities to implement a new version of the RPP in 30 communities in the Department of Medina Yoro Foulah. Tostan's extensive experience supporting positive social norms on parental practices will be combined with science-based "Tips" developed by Tostan partner VROOM to promote infant brain development which will be adapted and shared with communities in Senegal in 2022.

### CREATING FISTULA-FREE REGIONS IN SENEGAL AND BEYOND

Tostan has re-launched its fistula program to promote fistula-free regions first in Senegal, and then in The Gambia and Guinea Bissau. Building on Tostan's experience from 2012 to 2016, which integrated classes within the CEP and supported over 100 women living with fistula to undergo surgery, this new program, in partnership with Operation Fistula, will develop a holistic, replicable model to create an effective system that can support identification, treatment, monitoring, and rehabilitation of fistula patients on an ongoing basis.



Youth of Aly Woury community, Senegal, December 2021

## SHARING TOSTAN'S MODEL

Over the years, Tostan has received numerous requests from individuals, organizations, philanthropists, and government officials to share its model for community-led development. In response to this, Tostan has been offering training on key aspects of its model for local and international partners located in 49 countries both at the Tostan Training Center in Thiès, Senegal, as well as through partnerships with a range of stakeholders in Nigeria.

### TOSTAN TRAINING CENTER

Tostan first started offering 10-day Introductory seminars on Promoting Community Well-Being in 2015. As of the end of 2021, Tostan had welcomed a total of 768 participants from 49 countries across four continents to the participatory seminars at the Tostan Training Center. In 2021, trainings focused on a stronger interconnection between partnership and training activities with more seminars including participants belonging to the same networks. Eleven introductory seminars on Promoting Community Well-being were delivered reaching 216 participants from 15 countries. Training participants are now integrating different aspects from the seminars into their ongoing community program activities.

### TRAINING PARTICIPANT TESTIMONIALS



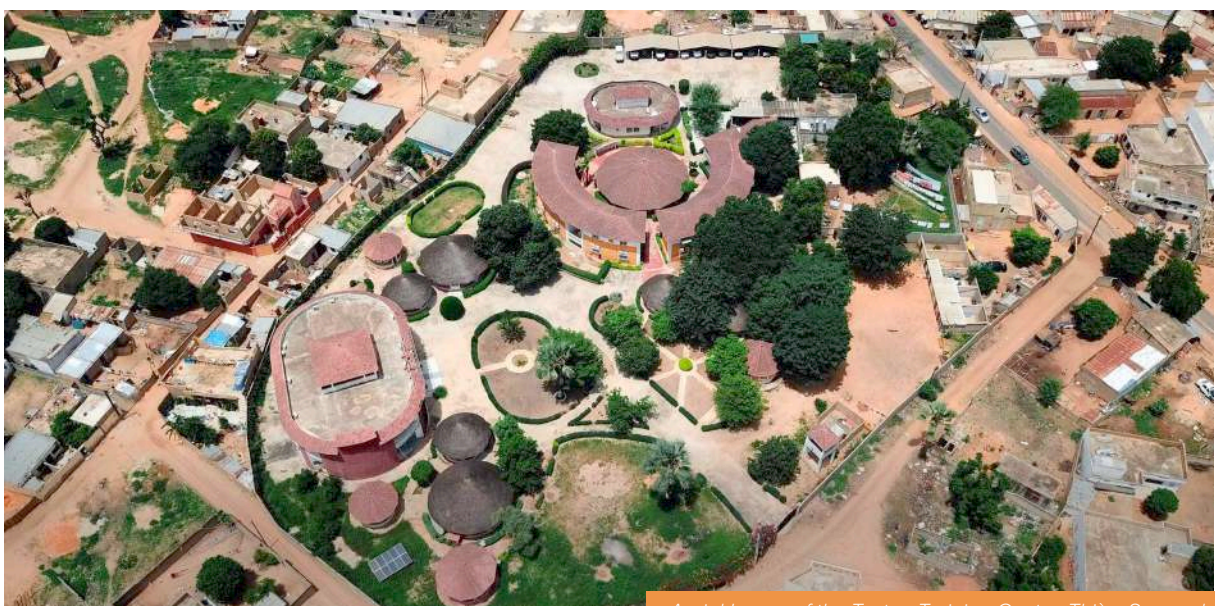
*This training has awakened greatness within me. I realized that when a mind is stretched by a new experience, it can never go back to its old way of thinking. We are now ready to apply the different aspects of the Tostan model in our community work in Sierra Leone.*

**James Bowen, Operations Manager of Integrated Development Program for Teenagers, Sierra Leone** (Training participant, April 2021)



*The most important takeaway from this seminar is that it helped me to move away from being an introvert to an extrovert. This has boosted my confidence and changed the way I perceive things.*

**Nyima Faye, Regional Gender Officer, Ministry of Gender, Children and Social Welfare, The Gambia** (Training participant, December 2021)



Aerial Image of the Tostan Training Center, Thiès, Senegal



## SHARING TOSTAN'S MODEL IN NIGERIA

Tostan first started training partners in Nigeria in 2015. This expanded in 2020 with Tostan pursuing a wider partnership strategy with a range of international, government and Civil Society Organization (CSO) stakeholders to support the Nigeria for Women Project (NFWP) around common goals of decreasing violence against women and girls and increasing gender equality in Nigeria.

In 2021, Tostan's **Introductory and Orientation Seminar training** was delivered for a total of 105 participants from the NFWP, international institutions and the Nigerian government, as well as members of CSO platforms and religious leader networks. This year Tostan also made progress towards developing a three-week **advanced training** to pilot in the first quarter of 2022 with representatives from Nigerian CSO platforms and religious leader networks working to end violence against women. A **Community of Practice** to provide mutual support and exchange for Tostan alumni was established in 2021 and is expected to be fully operational in 2022.

### TRAINING PARTICIPANT TESTIMONIALS



*To be honest, this is the first seminar of its kind in this Ministry in the last 30 years that I have been working here. Thank you to Tostan and the NFWP for organizing this life-changing seminar.*

**Idris Muhammed - Director Economic Services, Federal Ministry of Women Affairs, Nigeria, Orientation Seminar in Abuja, November, 2021**



*Usually I am comfortable being with people of the same religion. Now I am learning how to interact meaningfully with people of different religions.*

**Adelani Lateefat Omolara - Muslim Students Society of Nigeria (MSSN) - Orientation Seminar in Abuja, February, 2021**



Training Participant, Nigeria for Women Project, December 2021





Child in Soudiane community, Senegal

## GLOBAL INFLUENCE

**Driven by Tostan's ambition to scale community well-being and bring about systemic change, the organization is playing a growing role in influencing national and global actors, from participating in global panel discussions, international conferences, and hosting webinars to achieve its vision of dignity for all.**

### PARTICIPATION IN GLOBAL NETWORKS AND EVENTS

In April 2021, Tostan participated in the Skoll World Forum focussed on Closing the Distance, engaging participants in discussions on strategies to overcome local and global divides and on how to build bridges and improve joint working amongst partners.

In May 2021, Catalyst 2030, co-founded by Tostan, organized its annual convening of systems change leaders of social entrepreneurs, the private sector, government stakeholders, and funders. With more than 550 members working in 175 countries, Catalyst 2030 is a global movement collaborating to unleash their collective power towards achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

The session on *Innovation and Partnership* featured a discussion between Tostan's CEO Elena Bonometti and the Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation (Norad). The Director General of Norad, Bård Vegar Solhjell, shared Norad's five strategic priorities and how the agency is forging a new path for bilaterals based on the urgency of the SDGs through investment, innovation and partnerships.

Upon winning the Bi/Multi-lateral Organization Catalyst 2030 award in recognition of Norad's commitment to build funding partnerships that deliver long-term sustainability, Bård Vegar Solhjell stated:



*We were so proud that Tostan nominated Norad for this award and even more glad to win it. Thank you - it was a great surprise!*

He went on to say that:

*We are in a defining time . . . after a generation of social and economic progress now development cooperation is even more important . . . to innovate, to look for new tools, partners, and change the way we work. Tostan is one of those innovative efforts that we have been partnering with over the years since 2011.*

In June 2021, Elena Bonometti, Tostan's CEO and Penda Mbaye, Tostan Senior Program Manager led an invitation to the international development community to reflect on the future of humanitarian action in an article published on [Devex](#), with an accompanying video on [Youtube](#). Elena Bonometti emphasized the positive shifts in the last few decades, exemplified by organizations such as Tostan where "humanitarian action has become more participatory, holistic, data-driven, gender-sensitive, power-conscious, and locally-centered."

## WEBINARS: 30TH ANNIVERSARY SHOWCASE SERIES

In 2021, Tostan celebrated its 30 year anniversary and hosted a series of four webinars which included Tostan's funding partners, government partners, Board of Directors, and staff to showcase some of the achievements and lessons learned from its ground-breaking work empowering communities to improve their well-being. Introducing the webinars, **Fatima Sy, Tostan's Vice-Chairperson** stated:



*Tostan is celebrating three decades of partnership with communities . . . of listening, reflection, innovation, and support to realize their aspirations. Whilst Tostan's reputation is based on the significant progress made in changing social norms related to harmful practices, another facet of Tostan's work is that of civic engagement, democracy, leadership and governance, making each member of the community aware of their human rights and responsibilities.*

The June 2021 webinar included sharing the initial findings from the [Final Evaluation](#) of Tostan's Breakthrough Generation Initiative, a four-year program partnering with 150 communities to empower 12,344 participants, of which 79% were women and girls. Between September and November 2021, Tostan hosted three further [webinars](#) focused on *Powerful Potential: Exploring the Future of Community Well-Being*. This series highlighted people, partnerships, and programs that Tostan believes have the biggest potential to support community well-being in the years to come.

**Tostan**  
Dignity for All

Exploring the Future  
of Community Well-being  
A Fall 2021 Webinar Series hosted by Tostan

**30 YEARS**

**Powerful Potential:**  
Local Educators, Community Leaders and  
the New Frontiers of Well-being  
French with live interpretation into English

**September 16, 2021**  
6PM CET/4PM GMT/9AM PST

**Fatimata Sy**  
Vice-Chairperson  
Tostan's Board of Directors

**Birima Fall (Facilitator)**  
Manager  
Tostan Training Center

**Souleymane Bachir Barry**  
Youth Mayor  
Medina Yoro Foulah, Senegal

**Khadidjatou Diop**  
Partner Program Education  
MasterCard Foundation

**30 YEARS**

## TOSTAN'S FUNDING PARTNERS

**We are grateful for the continued generosity of all of our funding partners. Philanthropic support enables Tostan to continue inspiring large-scale movements that lead to dignity for all. This generosity helps drive innovation at the grassroots level and provides the flexibility necessary to improve the lives of women, children, youth, and communities as a whole—thank you!**

Our partners ensure Tostan can continue to pursue our vision of dignity for all. Listed below are the individuals, foundations, and organizations that supported our work in 2021. We have listed those who have given \$5,000 or more.

### INDIVIDUALS

- |                                 |                                    |                            |
|---------------------------------|------------------------------------|----------------------------|
| • Alexei Kosut and Laura Back   | • Diane and Mike Gillespie         | • Libby Cunningham         |
| • Andreas E. Zielke             | • Ellen Price                      | • Lisa and Mark Wheeler    |
| • Andrew Achterkirchen          | • Francesca Moneti                 | • Louise Cord              |
| • Anne Willoughby Nelson        | • Judith McFarlane                 | • MacKenzie Scott          |
| • Barbara and Ed Wilson         | • Karen and Greg Dimit             | • Maren Christensen        |
| • Cynthia Baxter                | • Kevin Peterson and Bouke de Jong | • Mary Ellen Cunningham    |
| • David and Sylvie Forest       | • Leticia and Walter Aeschbach     | • Nancy and Stephen Molson |
| • Diana McCargo and Peter Swift |                                    | • Wendy Reed               |

### FOUNDATIONS AND ORGANIZATIONS

- |   |  |  |
|---|--|--|
| • Anti-Slavery International                        | • Liddy Family Fund                            | • The Benevity Community Impact Fund   |
| • Bezos Family Foundation                           | • Malin and Lennart Philipson Foundation       | • The Greenbaum Foundation             |
| • Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation                 | • Mao Family Foundation                        | • The Kuehlthau Family Foundation      |
| • Bylo Chacon Foundation                            | • Margaret Gada Slosberg Charitable Foundation | • The Long Road Foundation             |
| • Cartier Philanthropy                              | • MasterCard Foundation                        | • The Nommontu Foundation              |
| • Cohn Charitable Fund                              | • Norad  | • Tom and Gail Kaneb Family Foundation |
| • David E. Reese Family Foundation                  | • Orchid Project                               | • Tostan Canada                        |
| • Dutch Embassy Dakar                               | • Pathy Family Foundation                      | • Tostan Sweden                        |
| • Flora Family Foundation                           | • Pivotal Ventures                             | • Trimble Foundation                   |
| • Ford Foundation                                   | • Propel Capital                               | • UNFPA Mali                           |
| • Foundation for a Just Society International, Ltd. | • Ripple Foundation                            | • UNFPA Sénégal                        |
| • Gary Saltz Foundation                             | • Roy A. Hunt Foundation                       | • Walker Family Foundation             |
| • Global Affairs Canada                             | • Skoll Foundation                             | • Wellspring Philanthropic Fund        |
| • Hapke Family Foundation                           | • Snowbird Foundation                          | • William and Flora Hewlett Foundation |
| • Imago Dei Fund                                    | • Svenska Petroleum Exploration                |  |
| • James Family Foundation                           |  |  |

### SISTER ORGANIZATIONS

- |                  |                 |
|------------------|-----------------|
| • Tostan Canada  | • Tostan France |
| • Tostan Denmark | • Tostan Sweden |



## A Special Thank you:

### CELEBRATING OUR DONORS ACROSS 30 YEARS

In honor of our 30th anniversary, Tostan would like to extend a special thanks to all of our current and historical funders who have contributed to community well-being and helped our organization thrive. In contributing to our work you not only provide resources but honor the commitment of communities, staff, and volunteers.

We would also like to offer a special thank you to MacKenzie Scott, who in the summer of 2021 included Tostan in a round of her generous, trust-based philanthropy, providing a one-time gift of \$20m. In celebrating our 30th anniversary, we have seen this gift as an investment in Tostan's potential for decades to come—an opportunity to amplify our work. Tostan's Board and leadership team have taken careful steps to ensure these funds will be used to maximum effect to drive Tostan towards its greatest strategic potential in catalyzing the scale of community well-being. We look forward to sharing our progress in 2022 and beyond.

Tostan would like to thank **each and every donor** who has contributed to where we are today. We look forward to continued partnership on the journey towards dignity for all.

## FINANCIALS

**As a part of its commitment to transparency, Tostan publishes comprehensive financial records and data on its website as soon as they are finalized. Please visit [tostan.org/publications](https://tostan.org/publications) to read our Audited Annual Financial Statements and our Annual Form 990 submission.**



Children in Soudiane community, Senegal

## CLOSING THOUGHTS



From left to right Thiaba Camara Sy, Kelly Baxter, Fatima Sy

**2021 was a truly special year—a year in which we not only saw a wide range of important advances across Tostan, but also celebrated our 30 year anniversary as an organization.**

In that context we are deeply honored to share these closing words, and we choose to use this moment to celebrate and thank all those who have made Tostan what it is today.

We celebrate the communities who for the past 30 years have led such incredible changes for the well-being of themselves and countless others.

We thank our many local and national governmental partners who make our work possible, and our program partners at all levels—from grassroots partners to global networks - whose contributions join ours each day.

We honor the incredible Tostan staff and leadership teams and volunteers who do so much to support those communities and engage our partners.

And we recognize our supporters and funding partners who have walked alongside Tostan during all these years. From institutional partners and small individual donors to family foundations and philanthropists, we simply would not be where we are without your partnership. The significant, trusting gift we received from Mackenzie Scott joins the long and continuing story of visionary donors of all kinds who have invested in community potential to achieve sustainable well-being for all.

We also appreciate the ways in which all of these actors come together. Across dozens of countries, languages, and cultures, from local to global, the threads of all those in the Tostan family weave each day a tapestry of collective potential.

As Tostan now turns its attention to what comes next, it is this global family, this unity, that gives us confidence and inspiration that we can meet the challenges that await us and successfully support the scale of community well-being.

On behalf of Tostan's Board of Directors, we offer a thank you to the Tostan family - to every single person who has in some way contributed to this ongoing work towards *dignity for all*.

**Kelly Baxter, Chair**

*Kelly Baxter*

**Fatimata Sy, Vice-Chair**

*Fatimata Sy*





# Tostan

Dignity for All

5 Cité Aelmas Ouest, Foire VDN  
BP 29371 Dakar-Yoff, Senegal



1199 N. Fairfax Street Suite 300  
Alexandria VA 22314, US

Tax ID: 98-0118876



[info@tostan.org](mailto:info@tostan.org)



[www.tostan.org](http://www.tostan.org)

