



Tostan
Dignity for All

Annual Report 2013

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Who We Are

Our Vision

Dignity for all

Our Mission

To empower African communities to bring about sustainable development and positive social transformation based on respect for human rights.

What We Do

Tostan focuses on implementing gender inclusive, non-formal education for adults and adolescents in African communities, and empowers community members in African countries with the skills and knowledge they need to lead their own development.

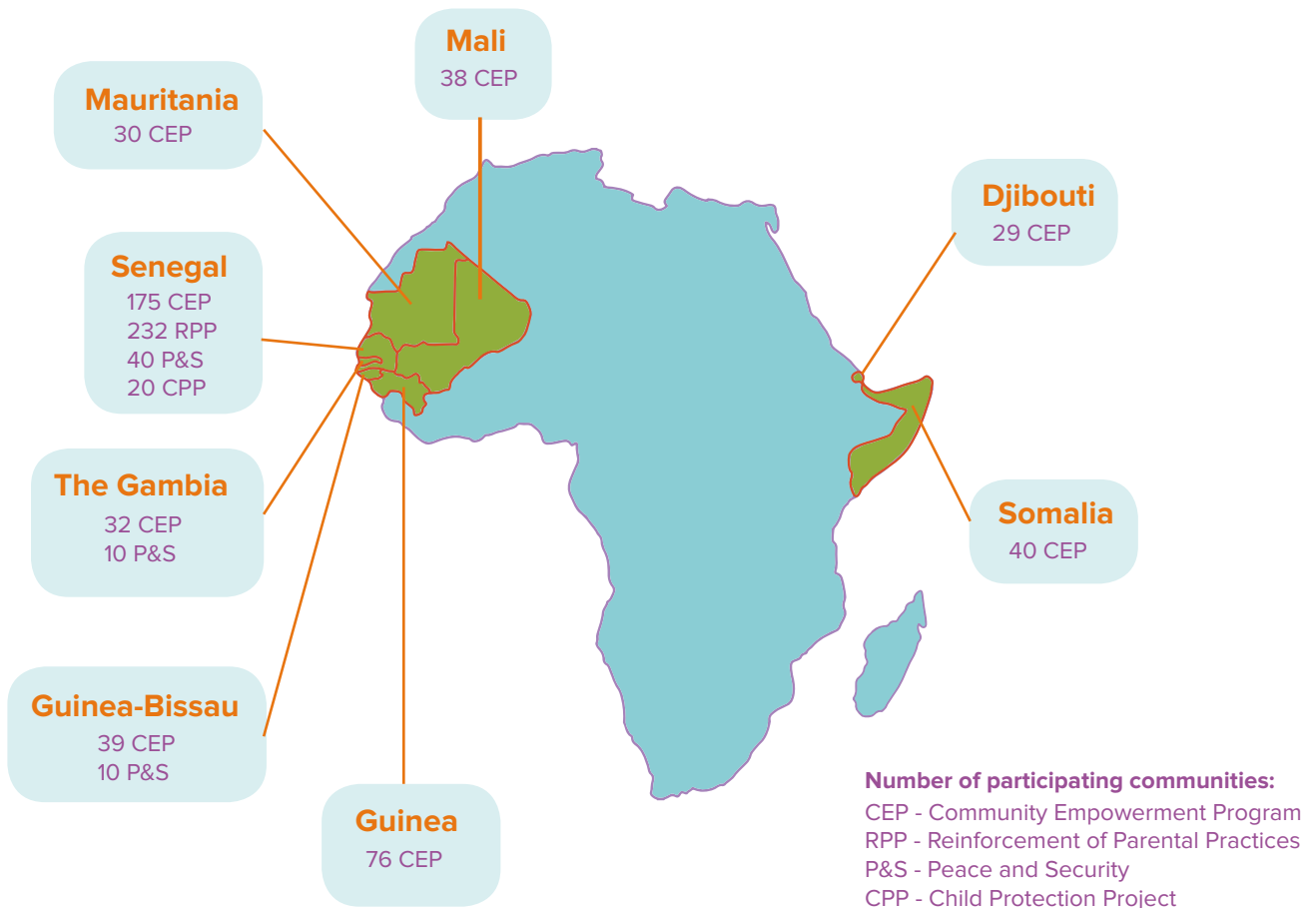


Audience clapping during an intervillage meeting in May 2013 in Mamboukou, Senegal

Our Presence in 2013

Tostan is headquartered in Dakar, Senegal and has a small office in Washington DC that assists in fundraising, communications, operations, and human resources. In 2013, the DC team led the launch of the Generational Change in Three Years fundraising campaign and provided support for the release of *However Long the Night*, a book about our Founder and CEO Molly Melching, which included a major US tour and extensive media engagement.

In each country where we worked in 2013, a National Coordinator led a team of local staff in adapting the Tostan approach to the context of the specific country and region.



Community Empowerment Program (CEP)

Our unique three-year non-formal education program is based on human rights and is implemented in 22 African languages. Underpinned by a respectful approach to local beliefs and culture, it combines modern educational techniques with traditional African oral teaching methods. Separate classes take place for adolescents and adults, and more than half of all participants are female. Classes are facilitated in national languages in a way that is culturally relevant to participants' daily lives, making them accessible to those who have never had the opportunity to attend formal schooling.

The program is divided into two phases: Kobi which means to prepare the soil and Aawde; to plant the seed. The former has a social empowerment element, which promotes dialogue and exchange, and the latter has a literacy and economic empowerment element.

As part of the CEP, each community democratically selects 17 **Community Management Committee** (CMC) members who are trained in the skills necessary to implement their own projects in their communities. At least half of the committee members are female.

The results of the CEP cut across our five impact areas: governance, education, health, environment, and economic growth. Through Tostan's holistic program of non-formal education, participants learn about their human rights and the responsibilities associated with defending those rights. Then, they engage in discussions about deeply entrenched harmful practices such as **female genital cutting** (FGC) and child/forced marriage that hinder their community wellbeing, and often decide by themselves to abandon practices.

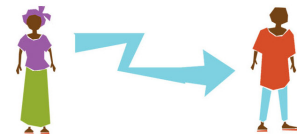


The CEP: Organized Diffusion

CEP participants help to spread knowledge of human rights to interconnected groups and their social networks. Since the beginning of our program, information on human rights has reached over two million people. Tostan has identified three main components that make up our approach to **organized diffusion**.

Adopt-a-learner

Each participant in a Tostan class 'adopts' a friend, neighbor, or family member and shares with him or her new knowledge learned during the class. This practice ensures that the concepts discussed during the CEP spread throughout the community.



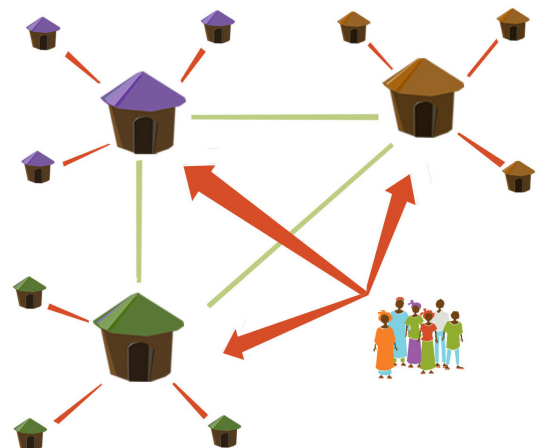
Awareness-Raising Activities

Community classes organize awareness-raising activities to inform the entire community about program themes, such as protecting human rights or improving health practices in their village. CMCs and participants also organize trips to neighboring villages to discuss new ideas and facilitate community events around these topics.



Social Mobilization Agents (SMA)

These are community members specifically selected for their communication skills and their dedication to positive social change. They play an important role in raising awareness as they visit neighboring and intermarrying villages to facilitate discussion on human rights-focused themes. Representatives from many neighboring communities share their experiences, opening dialogue and allowing many communities to make decisions as one group. Our work often stretches across country borders and impacts FGC and child/forced marriage.



Social Mobilization & Our Work with Religious Leaders

In our work with African communities, we have found it essential to work closely with influential local, religious leaders on issues such as respect for women and girls, female genital cutting, child/forced marriage and child protection. Tostan recognizes that the moral values religions uphold align closely with human rights such as non-discrimination, non-violence, peace, wellbeing, and health. As a result of our close collaboration, religious leaders who come to understand our program deeply are able to advance a human rights agenda and promote positive social change in their communities.

Religious leaders working in partnership with Tostan sometimes become social mobilization agents, going from village to village and voicing their support for the abandonment of harmful traditional practices, which are often mistakenly seen as religious requirements. In addition, we partner with local religious leaders to end forced child begging and modernize daaras, which are Koranic boarding schools, through government-led reform.

In 2013, the Reinforcement of Parental Practices (RPP) project team learned that some local religious leaders did not feel included in the program. They organized workshops in each region where religious leaders from each community could discuss religious teaching traditions, particularly that of the Koran and the teachings of Muhammad as they relate to important social issues being discussed. They also addressed children's education and early childhood development.



Religious leaders from 66 Mandinka communities meeting in the region of Ziguinchor to discuss their engagement with reinforcing early childhood development in Senegalese villages.

“Human rights are not incompatible with religion, but rather human rights are the very essence of religious belief...they are divine rights for everyone, men and women. Scripture reestablishes these human rights in society, specifically women's rights, not the other way around”

- Imam Mouhamed Cherif Diop, Islamic Scholar
and Tostan Child Protection Specialist

Ensuring Sustainable Development in the Community

Community Management Committees (CMCs) embody our vision for sustainable development: democratic, community-based organizations working to meet community needs and improve the wellbeing of all community members. Each committee is made up of several commissions, including health, environment, child protection, education, income-generation, and social mobilization, which continue to lead development activities and promote human rights-based development long after the three-year program has finished.

Many CMCs register to become Community Based Organizations.

Since its establishment in 2006, Tostan's **Empowered Communities Network** (ECN) has worked alongside over 1500 CMCs. The ECN connects trained CMCs with nonprofit partners, microcredit institutions, businesses, government authorities, and other service providers so they can access resources and funding to continue their community-led development projects.



Members from the Community Based Organization of Keur Galo Débo, in Kaolack, Senegal

Ensuring Sustainable Development in the Community

Example: Community Based Organization

The community of Keur Galo Débo

Country: Senegal

Region: Kaolack

Number of members: 26 members

Funding sources: Senegal Mutual Credit (CMS), Cauris

Partners: Senegal Mutual Credit (CMS), Cauris

Principal activities: retail, village clean-ups, income-generating activities, organized diffusion activities with neighboring villages, community health, and education-related activities

Major successes in the community

Governance: One community member was appointed as an advisor in the local government. All community members of age voted in the last election.

Education: The CMC facilitates registration at birth to help families obtain birth certificates for their children. They monitor schools by ensuring that proper materials such as notebooks, pens, and pencils are provided and that the school is clean. The CMC also raises awareness about child/forced marriage and the benefits of staying in school and has worked hard to abandon violence against women and children.

Health: Every child in the community is vaccinated. All pregnant women attend prenatal visits. The village has also worked hard to prevent malaria by increasing the use of insecticide-treated mosquito nets and holding village clean-ups in the community.

Environment: The community built 10 latrines. In addition, they have regular village clean-up days.

Economic Growth: With the funds available to them, the CMC has lent money to community members in need of transportation to the hospital and to receive treatment. The CMC set up a small market place where community members sell vegetables, rice, oil, soap, and other necessities.

The CEP: Measuring the Impact of Community-led Change

Tostan has always tried to improve the effectiveness of its own work with communities through feedback from the communities themselves. Recently, we have been making a concerted effort to enhance our ways of gathering and interpreting evidence in a manner that would also improve the ways in which we share the results with others. Prior to 2012, donor-driven evaluations were showing only parts of what Tostan was achieving in participating communities. In order to better evidence the holistic results of the CEP, actors within the organization contributed to an analysis of our understanding of the concept of wellbeing. The result was an agreement on five key sectors of community life: Governance, Education, Health, Environment and Economic Growth (in French: Gouvernance, Education, Santé, Environnement, Croissance Economique—GESEE).

Tostan's MERL department has worked to review current indicators and harmonize them with the recent GESEE framework in order to effectively demonstrate to donors, researchers, and to the wider public, the holistic impact of the CEP. This comprehensive approach will help Tostan to identify best practices and to continually improve accountability, learning and sustainability within the organization. To accomplish this, Tostan will use an M&E system that is:

- **complementary to existing monitoring and evaluation systems** in countries of intervention so that data collected can be compared with those regularly gathered by Country Offices;
- **participatory**, so that gathered data will be useful to actors at all levels of program planning and implementation;
- **helpful to decision making**, by encouraging Tostan staff at the international and national levels as well as Tostan's partners to actively engage in the dialogue for the improvement of programming and resource allocation.



CEP Results

GOVERNANCE

CEP participants learn about the responsibilities associated with defending and respecting human rights, as well as the fundamental elements of democracy, which have often never been discussed before. CMCs develop a strong leadership presence in Tostan's communities, contributing to the growth of good governance and democracy. They work to increase democratic participation by encouraging residents to register to vote and participate in national elections. They also help them obtain national identity cards and register children at birth.

In the areas where we work, women's voices were rarely heard in community decisions, and women were not usually expected to take on leadership roles, either in their families or in their communities. Through our holistic program, women develop leadership skills, engage in dialogue, and demonstrate their ability to make important decisions. These women often emerge as community leaders, activists, and role models, showing young girls and boys alike that women can succeed and work with men to reach common goals. We have seen women become actively engaged in fostering positive social change: they run small businesses and earn money for their families, they organize campaigns for increased access to maternal and child health care, and they emerge as regional leaders in protecting human rights. More than half of the participants in our CEP are female. In 2013, women coordinated 80% of CMCs in the countries where we work. Through our classes, women become more comfortable engaging in dialogue and taking part in important community decisions, while developing leadership skills. We work with men and women together to encourage discussions about respecting the human rights of women and girls.



Work group discuss shared problems and possible solutions during a transborder meeting in Tendinto, Guinea-Bissau

Success Story: Portrait of a Woman Leader

Mariam Touré is a former Tostan program participant and a current CMC coordinator in Yorodjanbougou, in the sector of Yirimadio, Mali. When she was young, Mariam was a high achieving student in school at a time when education was not seen as a priority in her community. In Mali, most girls are expected to stay at home and do domestic chores. As a result, most girls and women remain illiterate.

Given her background, Mariam saw an opportunity for change in 2009 when the Tostan program arrived in her community. After each Tostan class, she taught the lessons to five to ten women who were unable to participate in the program because they were forbidden to attend by their families and had to stay at home. She says, “Before Tostan’s arrival, women did not communicate with each other in the neighborhood; now women can discuss and share information together.” She began to participate in meetings and made economic-related decisions on behalf of her community. Community members started to acknowledge the importance of educating women.



Mariam Touré, CMC Coordinator of Yorodjanbougou-Est Yirimadio, Mali

After she completed the program in 2013, Mariam was able to partner with other women from the community to start income-generating activities, and provide for their families using the skills they gained in project and financial management. She also led health-related activities for women and girls, and implemented a microcredit fund for women who partner with the Danisanji, a mutual fund in Yirimadio.

Over time, Mariam has become a well-respected figure in her community as a human rights activist and continues to inspire members of her community and beyond.

2013 by the numbers

5414 children

obtained birth certificates through CMCs efforts in Guinea-Bissau in 2013

39 CMCs in Guinea and The Gambia

have received Community Based Organisation (CBO) status, a government-recognized status

241 CMC members received training

in Child Protection in Djibouti, Guinea, The Gambia, Senegal, and Somalia

CEP Results

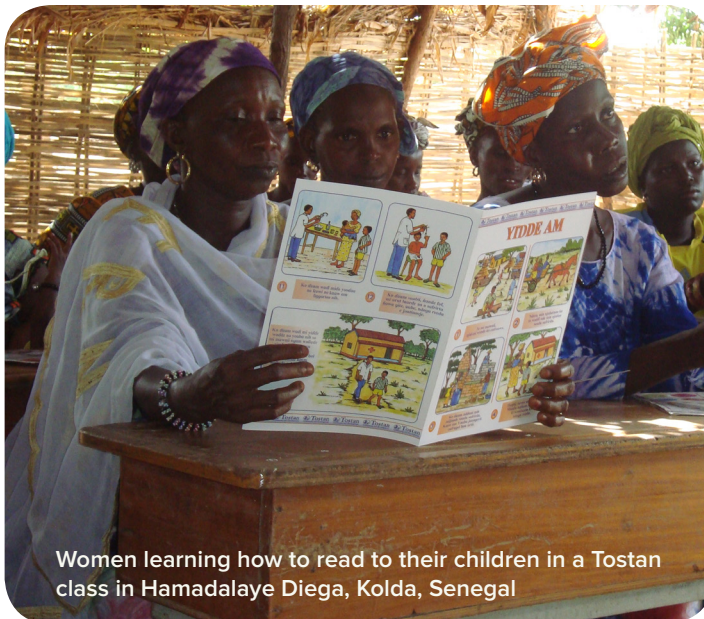
EDUCATION

Limited access to education, especially for women and girls, presents a serious obstacle to community development in the regions where Tostan works. Participants in the CEP, who often have little or no formal schooling, are able to build their critical thinking, literacy, and numeracy skills during three years of non-formal education. Our program works to promote equality and overcome the obstacles that hinder girls' right to education.

Following communities' participation in our holistic program, thousands of girls are more likely to have the opportunity to stay in school, and for longer, rather than be married at a young age. As more than half of participants are female, the CEP also provides women who did not have the opportunity to go to formal school a chance to learn, read, and write in their mother tongue.

Tostan has found that one of the main obstacles to sustainability of literacy initiatives is the lack of opportunities to read and write in everyday life.

Through mobile phone technology, SMS texting can give individuals the opportunity to reinforce literacy and numeracy skills, to diffuse information, and to conduct social mobilization activities. The mobile phone is already a frequently used mode of communication in rural areas, and Tostan has incorporated the use of mobile phones into the CEP, so that this practical, available tool can be used in literacy classes. SMS initiatives include: informing community members about enrolling children in school, providing health-related information on vaccinations and impregnated mosquito net distributions, and sending warning text messages about forest fires to local authorities.



Women learning how to read to their children in a Tostan class in Hamadalaye Diega, Kolda, Senegal

Social Norm Change: Child/Forced Marriage

At age 13, Maoundé asked to be sent to school, but her father Mamadou Baldé, the village chief of Tankanto Maoundé, in Kolda, Senegal, refused. He refused because traditionally, she should be given into marriage to a close family member. After participating in the Tostan program however, he realized the importance of education and did send her to school. Maoundé now wants every girl to know that “today we live in a modern world where education is the key to success.”

Many children in the countries where we work face potential obstacles to their healthy development, including child/forced marriage, defined by UNICEF as a formal marriage or informal union before the age of 18. It is estimated that every year, 14 million children around the world are married with little or no say in the matter. In 2013, 1120 communities across the countries in which we work pledged to abandon child/forced marriage.

The path to abandonment begins with Tostan participants learning about human rights during the first phase of our holistic human rights-based program. Through the use of non-judgmental language, CEP facilitators open a discussion about how child/forced marriage might pose a threat to certain human rights. For example, when a girl is married too young she is much more likely to drop out of school, experience health complications during childbirth, and encounter domestic violence.



Maounde Balde, Tostan participant from the community of Tankanto Maounde, in Kolda, Senegal

2013 by the numbers

807 girls and 640 boys

enrolled in school in Guinea thanks to CMC efforts

456 social mobilization activities

on SMS texting for literacy were arranged in Mali

953 new students

registered at school in the department of Ranerou in the region of Matam in 2013 thanks to CMC efforts

CEP Results

HEALTH

With their newly acquired knowledge, CMCs lead their communities in promoting healthy practices. In 2013, approximately 90% of participants in our partner communities in Guinea used impregnated mosquito nets. This is one of the many visible results of awareness-raising activities carried out by the CMC established during the CEP.

This year community-led actions included collaborating with local clinics to raise awareness about maternal health issues, and providing close access to medical services, as done by the CMC in The Gambian community of Murreh Kunda. Others initiated work with local health services in Kaolack to introduce vaccination programs such as the Expanded Program on Immunization (EPI), and promote sanitation and healthy behaviors to lower chances of infectious diseases by building toilets and providing basins with kettles for people to wash their hands in warm water. They also organized inter-zonal meetings to discuss the harmful health effects of FGC.

During the three-year holistic CEP, participants learn about their right to health and the right to be free from all forms of violence. In many areas where we work, the health of community members is at risk because of limited access to health resources and care, low vaccination rates, and lack of awareness about hygiene and disease prevention. The Tostan program builds their understanding about diseases, the importance of maintaining a clean environment, and the harmful physical and psychological consequences of practices such as FGC and child /forced marriage.



Oumy Ndiaye explains the human right to health illustrated on a poster in Soudiane, Senegal

Social Norm Change: Female Genital Cutting

In Mali, 30 communities who participated in the CEP publicly declared for the first time their abandonment of FGC.

This is significant because since 2006, Mali has recorded an FGC prevalence rate of 85.2 %. Also, 201 communities from southern Mauritania declared their abandonment of FGC. The majority of those communities had been adopted by villages that participated in the CEP. We address FGC during the first phase of CEP on discussions about the right to health, allowing community members to draw their own conclusions about the practice and lead their own movements for change. Due to our outreach model

of organized diffusion, dialogue takes place between communities and their wider social networks, meaning whole regions may decide to abandon the practice together.



A young girl celebrates at a declaration to end FGC and child marriage in Basse, the Gambia on June 13, 2013

According to the World Health Organization, 125 million girls and women worldwide are living with the consequences of FGC and it continues to affect at least three million girls annually in Africa alone.

To date, 7176 communities across eight countries have publicly declared their abandonment of FGC, thanks to participant-led campaigns in our program. This year, 30 communities in Mali, 42 communities in Guinea-Bissau, 201 communities in Mauritania, 76 communities in The Gambia, 92 communities in Guinea, and 760 communities in Senegal have abandoned FGC.

2013 by the numbers

6481 women participants

from the Brakhna region in Mauritania attended prenatal visits thanks to CMCs

91% of community members

from zones of Kaolack and Kaffrine in Senegal made regular visits to health centers & posts

CEP Results

ENVIRONMENT

Communities in the countries where we work face serious environmental challenges including poor waste management, increasing desertification, and diseases caused by poor public hygiene. Community members who have taken part in our holistic program become better able to find innovative solutions to these challenges and to defend their right to an environment that promotes their wellbeing.

Latrines have been built in every Tostan partner community to date in Senegal with the support of CMCs who have learned how diseases spread and how unhygienic practices that pollute the environment put community members' health at risk. These latrines have a direct impact on the lives of the communities by helping to prevent the spread of germs causing diarrhea, one of the leading causes of child mortality in Africa.

In addition, many communities now hold regular clean-up days, taking an active role in creating a healthier environment and helping to prevent malaria by ridding the community of the stagnant water that attracts mosquitoes.



Collective village clean-up in The Gambia

Success Story: Protecting Environmental Best Practices

In 2013, Tostan's ECN team worked with the village of Keur Assane Ndiaye, in the region of Thiès, in western Senegal, on the implementation and use of solar cookers provided by Tostan partner, Sol Suffit. Sol Suffit is a climate project with the aim to introduce solar cooking to developing countries.

Sol Suffit and Tostan organized a six-day training workshop on the installation and use of this type of cooker. Tostan then subsidized 80 percent of the price for 50 cookers, which made them more affordable for many families within the community. Women in the community who use the environmentally-friendly appliance say it has many benefits. When it is sunny, they cook their meals easily without getting dirty or inhaling smoke. In addition, the women spend less than the equivalent of \$1 USD a day on firewood and fewer trees are cut down, therefore helping with the effects of desertification.

2013 by the numbers

2,101 improved stoves

built by Guinea in 2013

1,031 trees planted

in Mauritania, helping to reduce desertification and erosion

Over 500 village clean-ups

organized by CMCs in The Gambia



CMC member using the solar cooker to cook a meal

CEP Results

ECONOMIC GROWTH

Although many African economies have experienced growth over the past few years, unemployment remains extremely high. Economic opportunities in rural areas are still limited, especially for women and girls. When a family is struggling economically, girls are more likely than boys to be taken out of school to help with income generating activities or agricultural labor, and they are more likely to be married at a young age.

Our holistic CEP equips CMCs and other participants with the skills necessary to manage projects and run small businesses. CMCs also take the lead in distributing Community Development Grants within their community. These grants, given by Tostan and usually between \$300 and \$1000, provide communities with essential funds to establish revolving microcredit that in turn provide capital to community members—often women—wishing to launch income-generating activities. CMCs also encourage community members to save and plan for the future.



Women discuss a sewing activity for income generation in Louboudou in the Matam region of Senegal

Success Story: Putting Financial Management Into Practice

Mariama Diao sells tea, sugar, and candies in her village. Ouley Baldé sells oil and rice. Other women in Saré Asset, a community in the Kolda region of Senegal, sell traditionally-made soap or fresh produce from their gardens. These women are all former CEP participants. Mariama and Ouley are two of the 17 members of the CMC that were democratically selected in 2008, at the start of their CEP, in order to lead development activities within the village.

Saré Asset's CMC Coordinator, Dieynaba Kandé, explained that their community used part of their funds to buy a bull. Because agriculture is the primary source of income for many people in the Kolda region, they decided it would be a good investment to purchase a bull to help with their work in the fields. Next year they will be able to sell the bull at a profit if they choose.

More than half of the money received by Saré Asset's CMC from the federation was distributed to community members to use for their own activities. Recipients of these loans pay them back with ten percent in interest, which goes back into the federation's fund to be reinvested in other community projects.

Mariama, Ouley, and other women in Saré Asset have put what they learned about project and money management during the CEP into practice, and are advancing the economic development of their families and of their community as a whole.



Nalli Kande (left) Sinthiou Mballo, Diydere Balde in the rice field in the village of Sare Asset in Kolda, Senegal

2013 by the numbers

**500,000 CFA (\$983 USD)
grant awarded**

to two CMCs in Kaolack, Senegal to
start a community-run microcredit

19 CMCs in Senegal
opened bank accounts in 2013

222 female CMC members

from Kolda, Senegal, benefited from the
profits generated by their community
development grants of 350,000 CFA (\$738
USD). Several women used the money to
sell essential items such as sugar, tea, oil,
and milk

Innovations and New Directions

While Tostan always tries to ensure that villages can sustain activities based on what they have learned, the organization has also begun implementing special educational programs in partner communities who have completed our three-year CEP. The focus of each project builds on the knowledge learned during the program and aims to deliver an additional specialized educational program throughout our partner communities.



A work group from the regions of Salikégné-Contuboel, proudly displaying their action plan to combat the shared problem of forest fires and excessive cutting down of trees in Guinea-Bissau

PEACE AND SECURITY PROJECT (P&S)

The **Peace and Security Project**, funded by the Swedish International Development Agency (Sida), an agency of the Swedish government, focuses on violence prevention through improved communication and problem-solving skills, as well as the peaceful resolution of community and familial conflicts. These efforts are framed within our human rights-based approach. In 2013, the Peace and Security module was implemented in 60 communities across Guinea-Bissau, Senegal, and The Gambia.

In 2013, a cross-border meeting between 30 Senegalese-Gambian communities was organized in Senegal, and another involved 20 communities in Guinea-Bissau. A total of 200 community members including CMCs, Peace Committee members, and village chiefs discussed the achievements of the module, their shared experiences in conflict management, and the successes and challenges in their mediation activities.

One of the unique qualities of the Peace and Security project is its diaspora dimension. Led in cooperation with Tostan's office in France, they facilitate the mobilization of members of the West African diaspora based in Europe to become involved in peace and security initiatives in their communities of origin. In 2013, significant activities were undertaken by Tostan with members of the diaspora such as Diola Women's Day, a sports day with youth from Casamance, and an event to raise awareness about harmful traditional practices in Catalonia, Spain. They also used social media to relay information about Tostan's activities in the Fouta region of northern Senegal. In addition, Tostan partnered with the Spanish Cooperation to discuss immigrants' right to health and the right to be protected from all forms of violence, as well as the role of immigrants in disseminating information to their communities of origin in West Africa.



Salikégné-Contuboel work group discuss shared problems and possible solutions during a transborder meeting in Tendinto, Guinea-Bissau in December 2013

2013 by the numbers

3765 participants in 60 communities

participated in the Peace and Security Project in Guinea-Bissau, Senegal, and The Gambia

30 peace committees
established in three countries

290 family, community and intercommunity

conflicts resolved by peace committees in 2013

REINFORCEMENT OF PARENTAL PRACTICES (RPP)

The **Reinforcement of Parental Practices** (RPP) program is funded by the William and Flora Hewlett Foundation, and was implemented in 232 communities in 2013. A total of 7866 participants attended classes by November 2013. The program builds on knowledge gained during the CEP to enable parents and communities to create an environment that supports children's early development and learning in order to better prepare them for success in school and later in life.



Mother and child interact during a RPP intervillage meeting in Ndobène, Kaolack in June

The program is composed of four crucial components. The first component is classes on topics such as brain development, child rights and the five forms of intelligence: emotional, social, psychomotor, linguistic, and logical-mathematical. The second component involves home visits conducted by participants trained as expert primary caregivers (EPC). In July 2013, 24 Tostan trained EPCs put into practice what they learned in class sessions by coaching parents on best practices of parent-child interactions. Through the third component of social mobilization, communities build consensus around the importance of early childhood development (ECD) by spreading information community-wide through intervillage meetings and radio broadcasts. 40 radio programs were broadcast across six regions in Senegal covering the positive effects of parent-child interactions and the importance of protecting children's rights. Religious leaders have also agreed to actively promote the RPP program approach to ECD, as well as the abandonment of all violence against children. The final component is the sustainability approach in which community members adopt non-participants into the program. These sustainability events aim to give the entire community a sense of the importance of early childhood development and to encourage a consensus on promoting children's development. In 2013, 36 intervillage meetings were held, allowing neighboring communities to share their knowledge on early childhood development.

2013 by the numbers

18 children's books

pecially developed and printed in Wolof, Fulani, and Mandinka

230 religious leaders

signed a resolution to declare their abandonment of violence against all children in 2013

232 School Management Committees

were created and reinforced to protect children's rights and promote a sense of ownership of the school system at the community level

CHILD PROTECTION PROJECT (CPP)

The **Child Protection Project (CPP)** is a five-year project funded by the UK Department for International Development (DFID) and launched in September of 2010. Our partners include Anti-Slavery International (ASI) and the African Assembly for the Defense of Human Rights (RADDHO). The project works to end forced begging of talibé children by promoting a state-regulated modern daara (Koranic boarding school) program and improving enforcement of existing legislation forbidding the practice. Forced child begging is a common practice whereby young boys aged 7-15 are often sent to daaras or Koranic schools by their families, where they spend several hours a day begging to learn humility as part of their religious education and to cover the costs of their studies. This special post-CEP project addressing this practice is currently being implemented in 20 communities across three regions in Senegal: Kaolack, Thiès, and Matam.



Mohamed Cherif Diop, Child Protection specialist at Tostan with Alhousseynou Li and marabout Thierno Amadou Tidiane Ndiougue in Podor, Senegal.

Through coordinated advocacy efforts, Tostan works with CMCs and Daara Management Committees (DMCs) to closely monitor the education, health and hygiene of the talibés, raise awareness for the daara modernization program, explain how forced child begging violates the rights of the child, and encourage marabouts, or Koranic teachers, to apply to be part of the daara modernization scheme.

Participants in the CMCs and DMCs have shown great commitment towards the project by planning related activities in the three regions. In 2013, CMCs organized 50 activities for raising awareness, mobilizing support and establishing modern daaras. Examples include organizing press panel discussions on the Day of the Talibé and the Day of the African Child, protecting the wellbeing of talibés by covering their medical expenses with community funds, and collecting health and hygiene supplies for several local daaras. Tostan also assists Koranic schools in their efforts to complete applications to become modern daaras and submit them to the appropriate government office.

By the end of 2013, participants—including Koranic teachers—created an association called Diamatou Euhlii Khourene (ADEK) to unify and strengthen their voice vis-à-vis the local and national government.

2013 by the numbers

741 talibés have been adopted
by a family through a sponsoring system

135 koranic school teachers
from Tostan's partner communities were
actively engaged in the project and
participating in CMC activities

TOSTAN TRAINING CENTER PROJECT

As Tostan has developed its programs into a model of non-formal education and the improvement of community well-being, others doing similar work have asked to learn more about our approach. As a result, with generous support from donors, we took the first steps in establishing a **Tostan Training Center** to be housed at the present Center for Capacity Building and Sustainable Development in Thiès, Senegal. Late in 2012, the staff of Tostan, met in Thiès to discuss and reach agreement on the approach we would take. In 2013, we reached agreement on “Keelumak” as a name for the center, and began in earnest to make the necessary organizational arrangements. Work also began on the designing of a curriculum that would adequately convey the unique vision and approach to education and community engagement that have become characteristic of our way of working. We anticipate offering our first international workshop in the spring of 2015. This important effort, through which Tostan hopes to expand the reach of its mission—in part through contact with international students—will engage us in the development of new curriculum and—we believe—new cooperative relationships around the world.



Woman facilitating a training session at Tostan’s Center for Capacity Building & Sustainable Development (CCDD) in Thiès, Senegal, soon to become the Tostan Training Center



Young girls in small hut at a Public Declaration to abandon FGC in Bonconto, Kolda Region in Senegal

Sister Organizations

Two international partners lead fundraising efforts in Sweden and Canada, which support our work in Africa.

Tostan Sweden

Tostan Sweden has financed the implementation of the Community Empowerment Program in Senegal and The Gambia, as well as contributing to Tostan's Prison Project. Outreach efforts have resulted in raising awareness about Tostan in Sweden through national radio, television, and newspapers. Newsletters in Swedish are also sent out to Tostan Sweden members on a regular basis. Tostan Founder and CEO Molly Melching visited Sweden in 2013 and the events arranged around her visit gave Tostan broader publicity in Swedish media. While in the country, she also met with Government Ministers, representatives, and key donors.

Tostan Canada

In 2013, Tostan Canada continued activities to increase awareness for Tostan's work, built a community of supporters and developed organizational readiness for a broader communications and engagement strategy. In June, Tostan Canada hosted a series of receptions for Tostan Founder and CEO, Molly Melching, to support the launch of However Long the Night and generate support for our Generational Change in Three Years Campaign. Several major donations were made to the Generational Change in Three Years Campaign and Canadian funds continued to support the Tostan Training Center.

Africa Volunteer Program

Tostan's Africa Volunteer Program plays an instrumental role in building the organization's capacity. Our mission is to provide volunteers with the opportunity to contribute to the work of Tostan by learning, living, and working in a multicultural environment. Volunteers provide the staff with technical support to successfully deliver our program across West Africa.

We require volunteers to commit to a minimum full time one-year contract, but in exceptional cases, Tostan permits short term stays. Volunteers support the work of Tostan, both at the headquarters and in the field. They undertake work in all areas, including monitoring and evaluation, project management, reporting, external communications, partnership development, event planning and organization.

Throughout the year, we worked to:

- **strengthen and facilitate the work of volunteers in Senegalese regions and in our partner countries.** We found new housing options for volunteers in Kolda and Conakry, and secured the provision of free local language classes to allow volunteers to attain conversational level skills at an early stage in their services.
- **promote diversity within the volunteers' group.** We posted vacant positions across different websites to attract applicants from around the world, and we highlighted the benefit package to attract individuals from all economic backgrounds. As a result, the number of African applicants increased and we welcomed volunteers from nine different countries who spoke 18 languages.

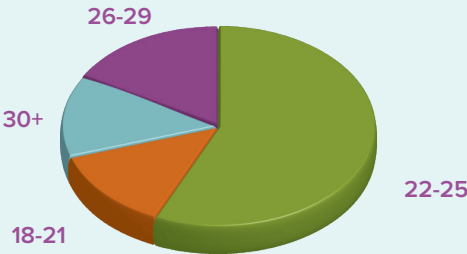
Tostan benefitted from the contribution of 30 volunteers from 9 countries:

23 women 7 men



- 1 Central African Republic
- 1 Congo
- 3 France
- 1 Guinea
- 1 Iran
- 1 Norway
- 1 Sweden
- 2 UK
- 19 USA

Volunteer Age Distribution in 2013



Financials

BALANCE SHEET

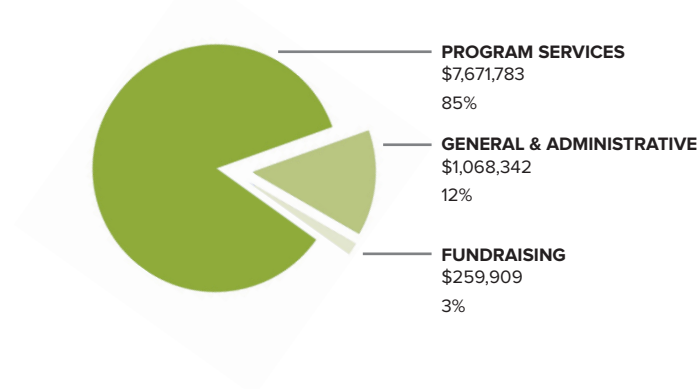
ASSETS

Current Assets	2013	2012
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 4,135,105	\$ 5,158,799
Investments	3,917	41,285
Grants receivable	1,884,003	3,716,712
Employee receivables	38,285	37,204
Contributions and other receivables	83,949	49,478
Prepaid expenses and other assets	35,288	27,869
Total current assets	6,360,547	9,031,347
Property and Equipment		
Land	298,573	298,573
Buildings and improvements	451,750	451,750
Furniture and office equipment	220,945	268,225
Vehicles and computer equipment	<u>274,916</u>	<u>283,441</u>
	1,246,184	1,301,989
Less: Accumulated depreciation and amortization	(574,756)	(558,989)
Net property and equipment	671,428	743,000
Noncurrent assets and grants receivable	1,671,146	-
Total assets	\$ 8,703,121	\$ 9,774,347

LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS

Current Liabilities		
Loan payable	\$ 500,000	\$ -
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	159,833	397,699
Total liabilities	659,833	397,699
Net Assets		
Unrestricted	\$ 1,473,857	\$1,051,201
Temporarily restricted	6,569,431	8,325,447
Total net assets	8,043,288	9,376,648
Total liabilities and net assets	\$ 8,703,121	\$ 9,774,347

EXPENDITURES IN 2013 (USD)



INCOME STATEMENT

Support and Revenue	2013	2012
Grants and contributions	\$ 7,669,786	\$ 10,381,587
Interest and investment income	6,169	15,076
In-kind contributions	58,026	-
Net training center loss	(187,498)	(134,444)
Other	62,799	41,173
Total support and revenue	7,609,282	10,303,392

Expenses		
Program services	7,671,783	6,402,521
Supporting services:		
General and administrative	1,068,342	1,028,334
Fundraising	259,909	185,243
Total supporting services	1,328,251	1,213,577
Total expenses	9,000,034	7,616,098
Change in net assets before other item	(1,390,752)	2,687,294

Net Assets		
Total other items	57,392	(906,942)
Change in net assets	(1,333,360)	1,780,352
Net assets at beginning of year	9,376,648	7,596,296
Net assets at end of year	\$ 8,043,288	\$ 9,376,648

List of Supporters

LIST OF DONORS

Anti-Slavery International
Catapult/Women Deliver
Cepaim
Cecilia Attias Foundation for
Women
Comunidad de Madrid
Construye Mundo
Fistula Foundation
Freedom to Create
Jackie Kaye Memorial Trust
Johnson & Johnson Corporate
Contributions
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Nike General Managers
Orchid Project
Pathy Family Foundation
Planet Wheeler Foundation
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Segal Family Foundation
Skoll Foundation
Sundance Institute
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Agency
Swedish Postcode Foundation
The Greenbaum Foundation
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Tostan Sweden
UNFPA
UNICEF
UNICEF Djibouti
UNICEF Guinea
UNICEF & UNFPA Guinea-Bissau

UNICEF & UNFPA Senegal

UNICEF Mauritania

UNICEF Somalia

UNICEF The Gambia

Vitol Foundation

Wallace Global Fund

Anonymous Donors

INDIVIDUAL DONATIONS

\$10,000+

Andrew Achterkirchen
Ashoke Sathy
Brian Frank
Carlyn Ring
Celestino Martinez
French American Charitable Trust
Horncrest Foundation
James Family Foundation
Jean and Saul Mintz Foundation
J.J. Stuckey, Recipient of the
Microsoft Corporation 2013
Technical Recognition Award
Leith Greensdale
Lowell Blankfort
Mark and Lisa Wheeler
Molly Melching
Nora Jaffe
Suzanne Crandall
The David E. Reese Family
Foundation
The Jacquelyn & Gregory Zehner
Foundation
The Melkus Family Foundation
The William H. Donner Foundation
Women in the World Foundation

\$5,000-\$9,999

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Girls Rights Project
Gregory and Karen Dimit
Heinz and Margaret Aeschbach
John Carroll
Kerrigan Family Charitable
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Anne Rossi
Carl E. Kessler Family Foundation
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Daniel Marsili
Deana Liddy
Diane Fernandez
George St. Johns
Hope Hartman
Judy Miller
Martin Presler-Marshall
Otto H. York Foundation
Peg Yorkin
Rosemary Pritzker
Sarah Epstein Revocable Trust

The Samuel J. and Ethel LeFrak
Charitable Trust
Triskeles Foundation
University of Pennsylvania

\$1,000-\$1,999

Barbara Pyle Foundation
Christine Rousseau
David Walsh
Debra McLeod
Diane Wittenberg
Ed Resor
Elizabeth Ng
Glenn DeBoer
Hathaway Barry
Hugh Ross
Inglemoor High School French Club
John Andresen
Joseph and Mary Nye
Judy and Steaven Jones
Karen Schneider
Laurie Benenson
Mark and Jennifer Hallenbeck
Mark Walzman and Patti O'Neill
Philip Kaszar
Robert Thau
Roosevelt Rastegar
Susan Dietz
Suzanne Romatowski
Tetral
The Westport Fund
Wanda Root

SPECIAL THANKS

Tostan would like to thank all those who supported the Generational Change in Three Years Campaign in 2013. This exciting effort is redefining how Tostan can deliver its biggest potential, at scale. The response to this Campaign by donors at all levels has been deeply appreciated.

We extend a very special thank you to the Leadership Circle of this Campaign. Their generous support made this campaign possible, and their ongoing commitment is helping ensure it exceeds its goals.

Brian and Kelly Baxter
Orchid Project
Pathy Family Foundation
The Gem Foundation
The Greenbaum Foundation
The Long Road Foundation
Tom & Gail Kaneb Family Foundation



Young girl from Tostan participating community, Changally
Chewdo, Upper River Region, The Gambia

Tostan

Dignity for All

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