



May 2012

Dear Tostan Friends and Supporters,

I am delighted to announce that last month Tostan launched its new [Peace and Security Project](#) in the village of Tankanto Maoundé in the department of Kolda, Senegal. This project aims to increase collaboration between communities and regional and international institutions so that nations can work together to find solutions to achieving peace and security.

At the event, I joined community members, our Peace and Security Project team, and partners from the Swedish International Development Agency (Sida) for a unique celebration of human rights. Together we honored the new beginning of a secure and peaceful West Africa.

[Watch a video that highlights key moments and interviews from the project launch here](#), and [read more about the Peace and Security Project here](#).

I want to sincerely thank you for your continuous support that allows us to take on these new initiatives. Read on for updates about our other work, including how raising baby chicks is teaching Senegalese inmates income-generating skills.

Warm wishes,



Community members celebrate their right to peace and security through dance at the project launch in Kolda, Senegal.

Molly Melching

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Executive Director

Baby chicks at Dakar Youth Prison teach inmates new skill set



For nine days, thirty-two young Senegalese prison inmates answered to the beck and call of baby chicks. Through a hands-on training in raising chickens hosted by [Tostan's Prison Project](#), these

young men were able to develop practical and income-generating skills that will allow them to provide for themselves and their families during their incarceration and upon release.

[Read more about baby chicks and Senegalese prison inmates here.](#)

The *Half the Sky* Movement continues



The inspiring book [Half the Sky](#) by Nicholas Kristof and Sheryl WuDunn directed global attention to the many challenges women face worldwide, and the ingenuity

Improving maternal health one delivery at a time



With new medical supplies in hand, the community health workers and residents of the village of Fegoun, Mali celebrated their human right to reproductive health. The Fegoun [Community Management](#)

[Committee](#) worked directly with the Malian National Director of Health to secure a delivery of needed medical supplies and to raise awareness within the community about child and maternal health best practices.

[Learn more about this partnership to support improved health here.](#)

Connecting you with community-led success



From community blood drives in urban Senegal to solar powered cell phone stations in rural



women are harnessing to turn this oppression into opportunity. Launched in mid-May, the new *Half the Sky* website features key issues affecting women and the individuals and organizations, like Tostan, that are partnering to empower those who lift up half the sky.

[Support and learn more about the *Half the Sky* movement here.](#)



Guinea-Bissau, Tostan has powerful images that help connect you to the communities on the ground. Check out our many Flickr and

Facebook photo albums to share in the excitement when community-led projects meet success throughout West and East Africa.

[View our Flickr photo albums](#), and [View our Facebook photo albums](#).

DONATE NOW



Click on the icons above to donate and stay connected with Tostan.

To find out more about upcoming events and ongoing projects, please visit our [website](#). Tostan is a US 501(c)(3) nongovernmental organization based in Senegal, West Africa.

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