



September 2012

Dear Tostan Friends and Supporters,

At Tostan, we believe that when communities promote gender equality and women's empowerment, they create an environment where development goals can thrive.

This Saturday, September 29, at the [Global Citizen Festival](#) in New York City, we will help celebrate the progress that has already been made worldwide in ending extreme poverty through the [Millennium Development Goals](#). We will also be announcing a new fundraising commitment, together with the [Half the Sky Movement](#) coalition, to work on Millennium Development Goal 3 (MDG3) 'Promoting Gender Equality and Empowering Women'. We can't tell you what that commitment is yet, but please look out for it in our news next week!

Tostan participants, like [Mamadou Ramatou Diallo](#), really show how MDG3 works 'in action'. When her community of Sahre Bookar, Senegal participated in Tostan's [Community Empowerment Program](#) (CEP), Ramatou emerged as a leader, becoming the head of the Health Commission of Sahre Bookar's [Community Management Committee](#) (CMC). In this role she leads innovative projects to improve community health, such as awareness-raising campaigns to increase vaccinations and reduce risk during pregnancy.



Mamadou Ramatou Diallo and her daughter  
Miriama

To learn more about Ramatou and others, visit our September blog series that focuses on [MDG3 in Action](#) and [visit our photo-essays](#) which introduce you to inspiring and empowered women in Senegal and Guinea.

Warm wishes,



Molly Melching

Executive Director

### **Aminata Dia: a role model for women**

Aminata Dia, a health matron in Younoferé, Senegal, empowers her village by sharing health knowledge with Tostan participants and encouraging involvement and engagement by women in her community.



[See how Aminata is a role model for her village in our featured Flickr album.](#)

### **Children's rights highlighted in black and white**

Moved by the resilience of street children in Senegal and [the work Tostan does to protect children's rights](#), photojournalist Émilie Reanier



### **Tostan France spreads awareness through photo exhibition**

[Tostan France](#) raised awareness about the impact of Tostan's Community Empowerment Program (CEP) and human rights-based education through a photo exhibition in Paris, France earlier this month.



[View the photos from Tostan France's exhibition.](#)

### **Stay tuned for updates on International Day of the Girl**

Through stories from The Gambia, Senegal, and Somalia, we will highlight the many important roles that girls play within their communities. Stay



spent two years in Senegal visually recording their stories. The result was a successful photo exhibition entitled *Boys Dakar: The Reality of Street Children*, which is running until October 28, 2012 in Montreal, Canada with 25 percent of all proceeds going to Tostan.



tuned for these inspiring examples of girls in support of the first ever International Day of the Girl in early October.

Check out our [Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#) for updates.



[Learn more about the exhibition and Émilie's human rights-focused work.](#)

**DONATE NOW**



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Tostan is a US 501(c)(3) nongovernmental organization based in Senegal, West Africa.

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