



Newsletter

July 2013

New Music Partnership Promotes Community-led Development

In a new partnership, Tostan and [Community Voice International](#) (CVI) are working together with [Community Management Committees](#) (CMC) to record music from five different regions in Senegal. The music will be sold online and all proceeds will go to the participating communities and their development projects.

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Using Mobile Phones to Promote Literacy

Tostan's [Mobile Phone for Literacy and Development](#) (MPLD) Module teaches communities how to use cellphones and text messaging as tools to reinforce the literacy and numeracy skills they have gained through the [Community Empowerment Program](#) (CEP). 30 communities in Kolda participated in the module earlier this year and have seen significant changes in their communication, economic activity and social mobilization efforts.

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Tostan at The Carter Center's Human Rights Defenders Policy Forum 2013

Tostan Founder Molly Melching and National Coordinator of the Diaspora and Regional Coordinator of Ziguinchor, Bacary Tamba discussed the power of religion and belief to advance human rights and dignity. Watch [President Carter's opening remarks](#) and read more about the Forum below

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Tostan's Image of the Month



A traditional storyteller performs before her community during a Community Voice International recording.

Spotlight on our Partner Communities



Kagnoubé: A Gambian Village Making Peace in West Africa

Tostan's [Peace and Security Project](#) is helping to change a Gambian community's view of mediation. Today, women and youth are leading peace and security initiatives such as preventing bushfires, promoting community health and resolving conflict between families.

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Organized Diffusion: How Human Rights information reaches remote communities

The community of Sinthiang Bouré is 44 km from the nearest town. Without any electricity, communication outside the village is hard, but community members here have heard about the Tostan program and learned about their human rights.

Through a coordinated outreach approach called [Organized Diffusion](#) which uses inter-village relationships, new knowledge can travel to these isolated communities.

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Join the movement to impact 1.6 million lives!


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