



# Newsletter

June 2013

## Four Weeks, Four Countries, Four Public Declarations: Guinea, Mali, Senegal, and The Gambia

Tostan partner communities in four countries in West Africa build momentum for the movement to abandon [female genital cutting](#) (FGC) and [child/forced marriage](#) as they publicly declare their abandonment of these practices. [Read More »](#)

## However Long the Night receives positive reviews and press

The new book about Tostan Founder, Molly Melching, and Tostan's work has received positive reviews from Melinda Gates on the [Impatient Optimists' blog](#) and in the [Stanford Social Innovation Review](#) among others. In the last two months, Molly Melching has also made appearances in the US and Canada sharing the story of Tostan including media spots on [PBS NewsHour](#) and [Leonard Lopate](#). [Read More »](#)

## Tostan Launches New Campaign: Generational Change in Three Years

Over the next three years, Tostan will partner with 1,000 communities to reach more than 1.6 million people in six West African countries. This campaign presents a unique opportunity to end FGC in Senegal and expand the movement in West Africa, greatly reduce child/forced marriage and violence against women and girls, and transform education for a generation of parents and children. [Read More »](#)

## Tostan's Image of the Month



At a public declaration for abandonment in The Gambia on June 16<sup>th</sup>, Day of the African Child, community members of all ages celebrated the day's theme to promote the end of social and cultural practices that are harmful to children.

## Spotlight on our Partner Communities



### Communities from Mauritania and Senegal Discuss Solutions to Gender-Based Violence

Representatives from 25 [Community Management Committees](#) in Mauritania crossed the river into Senegal to participate in a cross-border meeting to discuss solutions to gender-based violence and the impacts of the Tostan program on their communities. [Read More »](#)



### Community Members Implement Weekly Clean-Ups

Communities in Kolda, Senegal are implementing weekly community clean-ups after learning about their human rights to health and a clean environment through the Tostan [Community Empowerment Program](#). [Read More »](#)

Join the movement to impact 1.6 million lives!

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