



TAPORI

is a worldwide friendship network which brings together children from different backgrounds who want all children to have the same chances. They learn from children whose everyday life is very different from theirs. They think and act for a fairer world by inventing a way of living where no one is left behind.

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Tapori Newsletter

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Building the future together!



Dear Tapori,

In the wake of the eruption of the Nyiragongo volcano, many of you responded to the campaign **"Drops of solidarity and friendship for the Tapori of Goma, Democratic Republic of Congo"**. All the messages have been gathered together in a video, which you can watch by following this link: <https://youtu.be/MtVMwXxErFc>

Like the other true stories of children from the Central African Republic, France, Mauritius, Burkina Faso and Senegal that we share with you in this Letter, this act of solidarity shows how sensitive you are to what is happening in the world. **We hope that these stories inspire you to act together to change things in your daily lives.**



Protecting the environment... one tree at a time!



The Tapori children in Burkina Faso responded to Tapori's call in the Newsletter "Everyone can play a part!".

The children decided to become detectives for social and environmental justice.

As they look closely around them, they can see the damage being done to nature.

They are worried about the vegetation. They notice that the trees are becoming increasingly sparse.

"Everything is dry. The desert is moving towards us more and more. What can we do?"

"If we want more trees, then we have to plant them!"



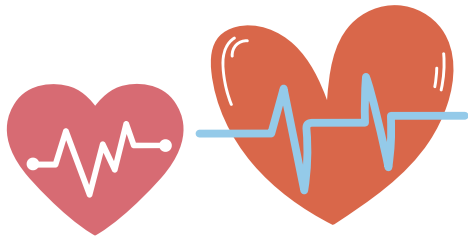
The children approach the adults in the neighborhood to consult them and prepare tree seedlings. They are even offered additional plants!

Thanks to their determination, the children's concerns are included in the programme of the International Day of the African Child.

The Tapori children's commitment is recognised.

In the presence of important guests, the community gathers to plant the trees prepared by the children.





Healthcare for everyone

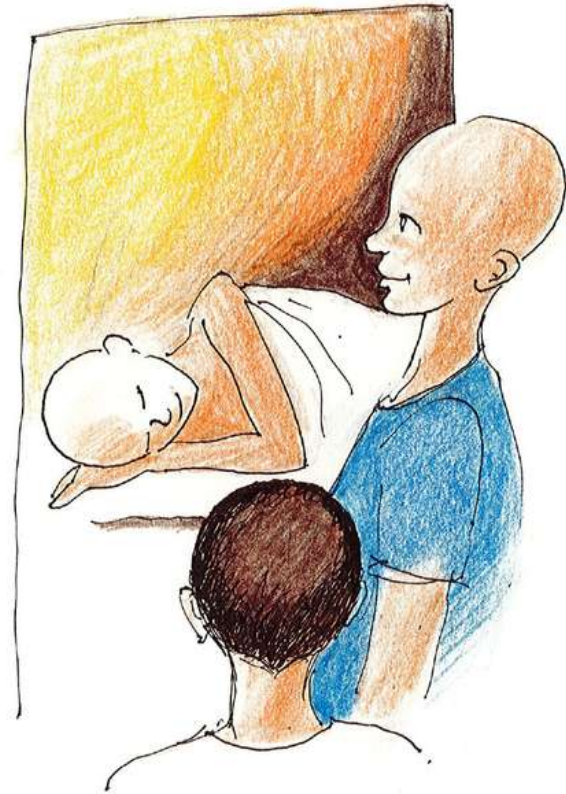
Christopher is a member of the Tapori group in Bangui, Central African Republic. He has a major health problem: he has a hernia. He needs an operation, but his family cannot afford to pay for it.

Even though the local children's hospital offers free treatment to all children under 18, Christopher's family was

asked to pay for his surgery.

The Tapori children decided to get organised to fight for the rights of their friend Christopher, but also of all children in the Central African Republic.

They got together under the name "Tapori Parliament Group".



On 19 June, on the occasion of the International Day of the African Child, the Tapori Parliament Group go to see the doctor in charge of the hospital in Bangui to explain their friend's situation.



The doctor is very touched by the children's determination. He offers to operate on Christopher free of charge the following Wednesday.

Proud of successfully speaking up for their friend, the children can't wait to tell him and his family the good news!

Drawings: François Jomini

A radio programme to change the world!



Like every Sunday, Tabori children from Bukavu, in the Democratic Republic of Congo, together with a group leader, come to the radio station "Neno la Uzima" to record the programme "Children of Courage".

The station's journalists believe in creating a space for the children to express everything their hearts tell them about changing the world.

The Tabori children choose together the topics of upcoming programmes. On this day, Rehema, Obedi and Christine are going to talk about the need to a free education.

"Many parents haven't got enough money to pay their children's school fees."

"Children should say no to paying school fees, as the law says that education is the State's responsibility!"

"When children are regularly kicked out of school, they can't do well in their studies."



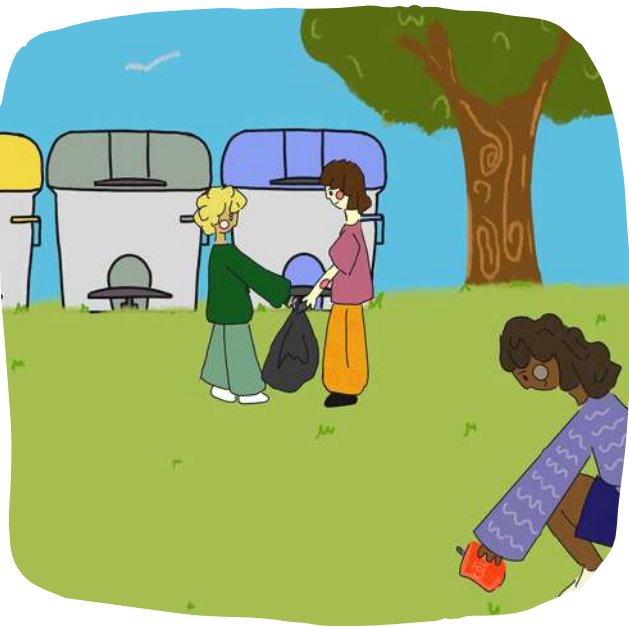
Drawings: Yves P.

During the programme, listeners react live, like this mother who calls to say:

"We parents are also responsible for what happens to our children. We must demand their rights and remind the government of its responsibilities."

Rehema, Obedi and Christine are proud they have spoken out and inspired listeners to take action. **They know that together we can change the world!**

Everyone can play their part!



Looking around the area they live in, the children of the Noisy-le-Grand Tabori group, in France, realise that there is a lot of rubbish lying around. One day, they decide to take action. Equipped with refuse bags and gloves, they pick up the rubbish. From their windows, other children see them and join in.

All together, they do a big clean-up job!

Once the rubbish has been gathered up, the Tabori leader asks the children:

"What can we do to stop people throwing rubbish on the ground?"

"We could make posters", one of the Tabori children answers.

They set to work straight away. They have to come up with slogans to raise awareness among their parents, brothers and sisters. To motivate them, the facilitator suggests using words that rhyme.

One child says: "Oh, I have an idea: 'Stop! Let's keep our environment tidy and healthy. Be clean, be green!'"

On large cardboard boxes, they paste pictures and write slogans.

Then they display the posters in the housing complex.

Later, a mother is surprised to see how clean the housing complex has become. She is very proud to hear that her daughter was involved in the clean-up operation and in making posters.



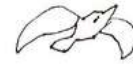
Drawings: Carla Chacoff



Together, they have realised that for everyone to feel more at home in the housing complex, they can each make a small contribution!



Hope for the environment



One day in April, the children of Case Noyale, Mauritius, were thrilled to get a visit from their Tabori leader. They welcome her with enthusiasm:

"You have to come to see our garden!"

The children of Case Noyale have started a community garden. They are happy to be able to meet there, especially since the end of confinement. They take the Tabori leader through the pumpkin, banana and sweet potato plants.

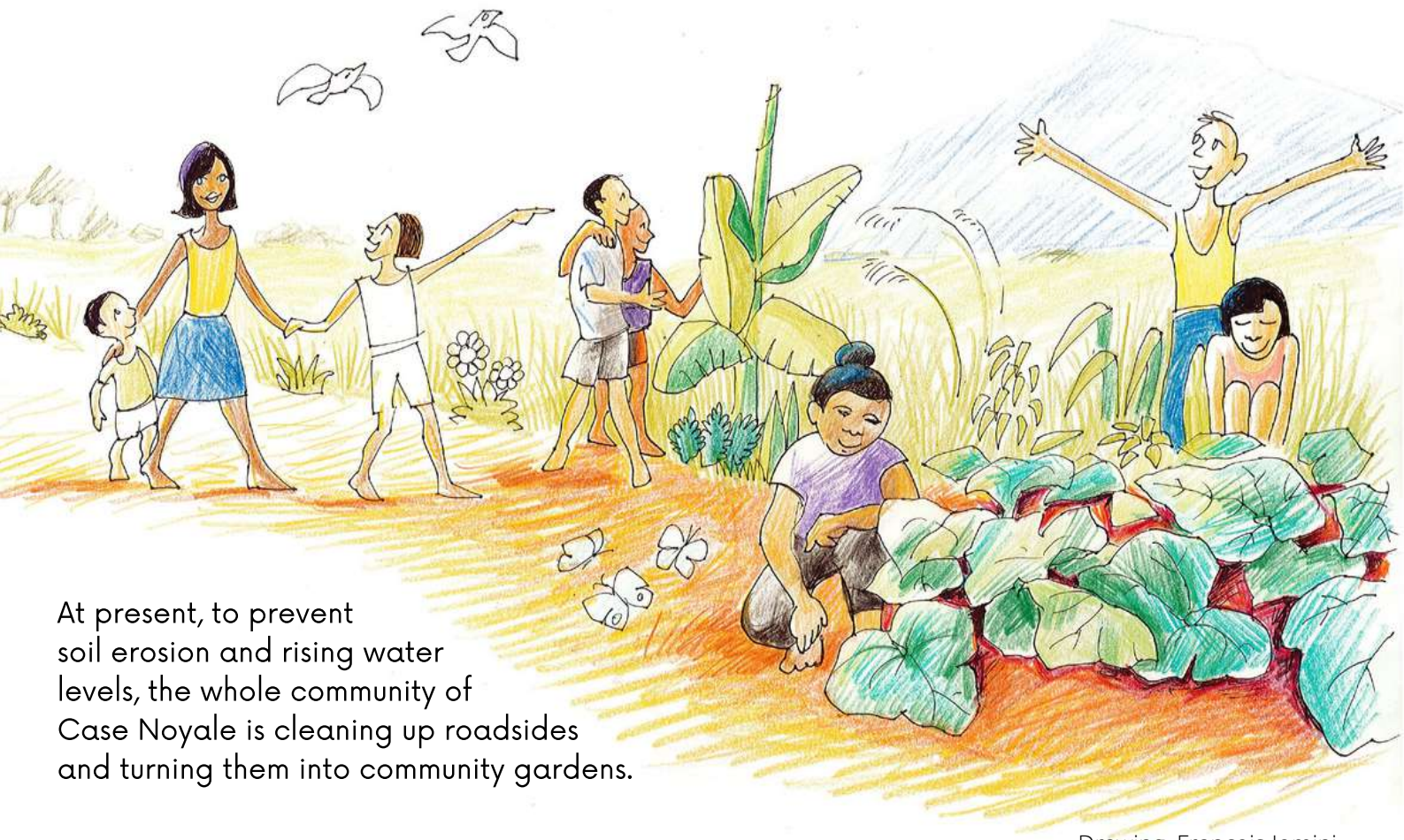
"Oh, and look at the curry leaves! They have

a wonderful smell. We use them to cook chicken or fish curry."

The leader asks the children why they created a garden.

"To make the neighbourhood more beautiful and to take care of our environment too", one of them replied.

The children of Case Noyale, like their friends from the Vuillemin group, are well aware that environmental protection is everyone's responsibility.



At present, to prevent soil erosion and rising water levels, the whole community of Case Noyale is cleaning up roadsides and turning them into community gardens.

Drawing: François Jomini

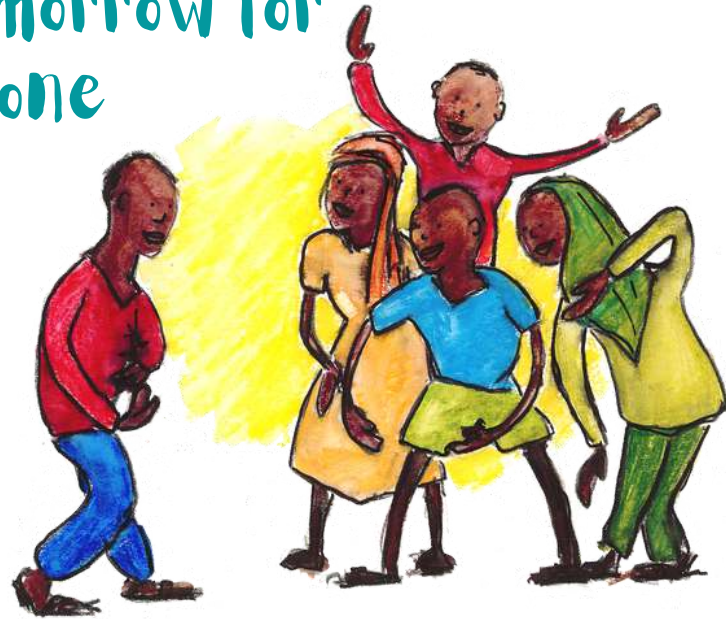
The children's action for the environment has inspired the adults. And they are proud of it!



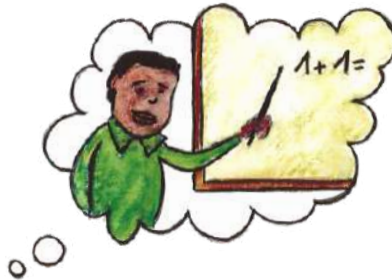
A colourful tomorrow for everyone

Through theatre workshops, children from the Sam Sam 3 neighbourhood, in the city of Dakar, Senegal, express their worries about school.

"For a child born in poverty, it's very hard to get an education and to have a good life. This child is more likely to live his life in poverty."



In their play, they show how they came together to meet with the local authorities when one of their friends had to drop out of school because his family couldn't afford to keep him there. He had to help support his family.



But the children express their dreams too:

"I would like to be an air hostess, or a teacher as I am really interested in teaching, children and girls especially."

"My older brother is my inspiration because he is a lawyer and I want to be like him."

After three weeks of rehearsals, they present their performance to the authorities on 16 June, the International Day of the African Child. Their friends from the Grand-Yoff group also attend and call for free education for all.

"Some parents can't afford housing even in a poor neighbourhood. This can have a serious impact on how their children get on in school."

Together, the children send a strong message to adults that all children should have the same chances... and the call for a colourful tomorrow for everyone!



Activity II



Imagine that a radio station asks you to present a children's programme. They even let you choose the theme!

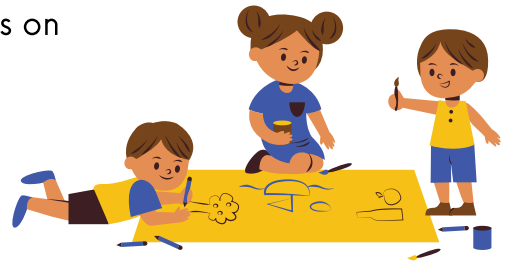
What would you like to say on the radio?

If you are looking for ideas, the topics in this Letter could inspire you.

Health and education for all, community gardens, environmental protection...

Step by step...

- 1 Choose a particular issue or situation in your neighbourhood that you would like to share on the radio. Why is it important to talk about this?
- 2 Think about the people who are affected by the topic. Imagine that they are willing to answer your questions on air. What questions would you like to ask them?
- 3 Do you have access to a Smartphone? Record yourself as if you were on the radio, and send us your reporting.



Welcome to Tapori...

Senegal, Dakar



Teranga children

In Sam Sam 3 in Dakar, the children had their first Tapori meeting on 7 July. Before meeting they looked for a name for their group, and finally chose "**Teranga**".

In Wolof, this word means "**Hospitality**" and their country Senegal is often known by this name. In the group there are children from 9 to 13 years old. They say: "Our Teranga group is for all the children of the world".