

## **CUSO**

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### Organization's mandate/goals:

CUSO is a Canadian non-profit organization which supports alliances for global social justice. CUSO works with people who strive for freedom, gender and racial equality, self-determination and cultural survival. CUSO achieves its goals by sharing information, human material and resources, and by promoting global sustainability.

CUSO is active in international development. It participates in projects that focus on conflict resolution; early warning; economic reconstruction; environmental security; governance and democratic development; human rights; institutional/civil capacity building; policy development, assessment and advocacy and social reconstruction. The organization is active in the following countries : Guatemala; El Salvador; Nicaragua; Peru; Columbia; Nigeria; Mozambique; South Africa; Indonesia, East Timor, Fiji, Solomon Islands, Papua New Guinea.

### Areas of expertise relevant to 2001 UN Conference on Small Arms:

#### Consultation, Co-operation and Information Exchange – *Coalition Building*

Over the years, CUSO is has maintained relationships, communications and/or support to partners in communities and countries which have been at war, or struggling for democracy and economic justice. CUSO is also a networking partner between the Canadian government and various community leaders around the world.

#### Human and Social Development -- *Building good governance and transparency*

CUSO's goal is to contribute to socio-political development by assisting communities in the development of good governance practices, improving respect for and protection of human rights, and participating in the policy decision-making that affects their lives.

CUSO has supported the Democratic Development Fund project. The main activities of the project were to provide conflict resolution, governance and democratic development and training in Nigeria. CUSO's main role was to provide administrative, technical and policy advocacy.