

Report on:**Participation of Dr. Fr. Robert Pradeep Kujur, S.J., Principal, in Partner Week and the 40th Anniversary Celebration of the University Foundation for Development Cooperation (USOS)****1. Introduction**

This report presents the participation of Dr. Fr. Robert Pradeep Kujur, S.J., Principal, in the Partner Week and the 40th Anniversary Celebration of the University Foundation for Development Cooperation (USOS), organized by the Institute of Development Policy (IOB), University of Antwerp, in collaboration with the University Foundation for Development Cooperation (USOS). The international programme was held from 24 November 2025 to 29 November 2025 and brought together university leaders, researchers, development practitioners, and institutional partners from across the world to foster international academic cooperation and sustainable development.

2. Objectives of Participation

The participation of Dr. Fr. Robert Pradeep Kujur, S.J. was intended to:

- Represent the institution in an international academic forum.
- Strengthen academic and institutional collaborations with the University of Antwerp and other partner institutions.
- Explore opportunities for collaborative research, faculty exchange, student mobility, and capacity-building initiatives.
- Engage in discussions on higher education, sustainable development, and international development cooperation.
- Participate in the celebration marking the 40th Anniversary of the University Foundation for Development Cooperation (USOS).

3. Participation and Role

During the programme, Dr. Fr. Robert Pradeep Kujur, S.J. actively participated in the academic sessions, institutional meetings, and networking activities organized under Partner Week. He also chaired a technical session, facilitating scholarly presentations and discussions among participants from diverse academic and professional backgrounds.

As the Session Chair, his responsibilities included:

- Presiding over the technical session and introducing the speakers.
- Moderating presentations and ensuring the smooth conduct of the proceedings.

- Facilitating interactive discussions and question-and-answer sessions.
- Summarizing the key deliberations and outcomes of the session.

The session witnessed active participation from delegates representing universities, research institutions, and development organizations from different countries.

4. Major Highlights

During the programme, **Dr. Fr. Robert Pradeep Kujur, S.J.** participated in:

- Keynote lectures delivered by internationally renowned scholars and development experts.
- Panel discussions focusing on higher education, international development, sustainability, and institutional partnerships.
- Meetings with representatives of partner universities to strengthen existing collaborations and identify new avenues for academic cooperation.
- Networking sessions with university administrators, faculty members, researchers, and development professionals.
- Commemorative events celebrating the 40 years of the University Foundation for Development Cooperation (USOS) and its contributions to global academic partnerships.

5. Outcomes

The participation yielded several significant outcomes, including:

- Strengthened institutional relationships with international partner universities.
- Identification of opportunities for collaborative research projects and academic exchange programmes.
- Enhanced international visibility of the institution through active participation in a prestigious global academic event.
- Exchange of best practices in higher education, development policy, and international cooperation.
- Reinforcement of the institution's commitment to internationalization and academic excellence.



USOS Partner Countries addressing Antwerp University USOS Stakeholders



Giving final shape to International Partnership with some foreign Universities such as Brazil, Congo and Suriname as they are member partners of Antwerp University
Belgium 🇧🇪



First round of meeting with Mr. Janus Verrelst Coordinator of USOS in Antwerp University, it is a Jesuit University but run and managed by lay persons. From Monday till Saturday we will have rounds of interaction with different stakeholders.

6. Conclusion

The participation of Dr. Fr. Robert Pradeep Kujur, S.J., Principal, in the Partner Week and the 40th Anniversary Celebration of the University Foundation for Development Cooperation (USOS) significantly contributed to strengthening international academic engagement and institutional collaboration. His role as the Chair of a technical session reflected the institution's academic leadership and commitment to global knowledge exchange. The interactions and outcomes of the programme are expected to facilitate future collaborative initiatives in research, education, and institutional development, thereby enhancing the institution's global outreach and academic excellence.