

Post-event report for

Engineering Study Tour - Kuwait

3rd- 4th November 2015 - Kuwait City

Introduction

With the growing demand for Engineering studies and the success of our previous Engineering and Technology study tour in 2014, this year British Council Kuwait held another Engineering focused tour at the Four Points hotel, Kuwait City on 03 November 2015.

The aim of the tour was to increase awareness and raise profile of the UK Engineering and technology sector in the local market. The UK remains the second most popular destination for Kuwaiti domiciled students because of its reputation in Science and Technology. More than 60% students opted for Engineering and Technology related subjects in 2013/14 and these subjects have been most popular for both UG and PG students over the past five years or so.

The tour included high-level meetings with local public Institutions (Engineering & Petroleum college Kuwait University, and Public Authority for Applied Education and Training), visits to private international schools and a one evening mini recruitment fair. The tour covered all the important aspects of what UK institutions were looking for; it had opportunities to build partnerships with Kuwait University College of Engineering and College of Technological Studies at PAAET along with meeting with high school students at three different private schools.

The purpose of this report is to provide you with a summary of the event, including visitor and exhibitor feedback as well as other useful information. We trust that this report will enable you to report return on investment and assist with future decision-making.

The event, themed around the Engineering & Technology opportunities and recruitment, hosted representatives from 7 UK institutions (Listed below), that positively engaged with prospective students, visitors and partners, providing the audience with information on educational partnerships opportunities and details on courses offered.

The mini fair and school visits attracted over 250 visitors thanks in part to the marketing campaign (Details listed below). Alongside the mini fair, a series of meetings with local institutions were also held, exploring possible opportunities for working together.

At the British Council, we highly appreciate your support, and hope that we can continue to provide valuable marketing services in terms of both our exhibitions and our range of other targeted activities during the year. We hope to see you again at our next event/exhibition.

Regards,

Imran Yousaf | Projects Manager, Kuwait

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Highlights

The tour had it all; it provided an ideal platform to the UK institutions to explore and engage is possible partnerships opportunities, raising their profile, reaching out to a big audience and recruiting students at the same time. The mini fair attracted a good number of potential students visiting the exhibitors. There was a lot of interest shown by the College of Technological Studies at PAAET to have a working relationship with the delegates in various areas. Al Rayyah a local student union organisation which looks after students in the UK and Ireland was also invited to take part in the mini fair to spread the message through their members and answer any enquiries related to the life in the UK.

This mini fair was held at the following venue/time/date...

Venue(s)	Four Points Sheraton – 03 November 2015
Opening hours	16:00-21:00
Stand costs	£1350.00 + VAT

Marketing

A targeted marketing approach was undertaken to reach a wider audience through our digital campaigns and offline advertising. We utilised our Eshots, Facebook (boosted paid campaigns), Instagram, and our website to reach out to the audience through digital marketing and published ads in all major Arabic newspaper close to the event. We also produced flyers, and roll ups which were placed in our office a week before the event. There were three press releases published in all major newspapers (both English and Arabic) prior to the tour.

This campaign had a very positive impact and more than 130 visitors visited the mini fair. Majority visitors found out about the mini fair through newspapers and Facebook when asked.

More than £3,500 was spent on Marketing for this mini fair

Our marketing reached an estimated audience of 1.5 Million people



Three Press Releases in Local Newspapers



Examples of marketing Include







Eshot





Eshots

British Council database- Total Reach: 9,000 recipients Eshot (other) – half a million active emails

Visitors/stakeholders Feedback

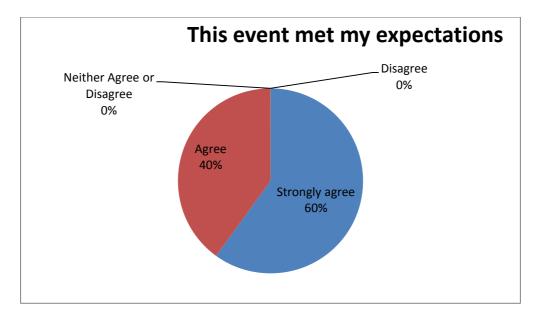
We received very positive feedback from the visitors, since it was a subject specific study tour students/parents received high quality information from the academics as well as international representatives. Some visitors commented to have more of subject specific tours for other specialisations.

Schools visits were also very useful, as there was a lot of interest generated from high school students and high-level enquiries received. The school management appreciated delegate's presence and we were told to conduct more of these visits at their school as it helps generate confidence in students and provides opportunities as well.

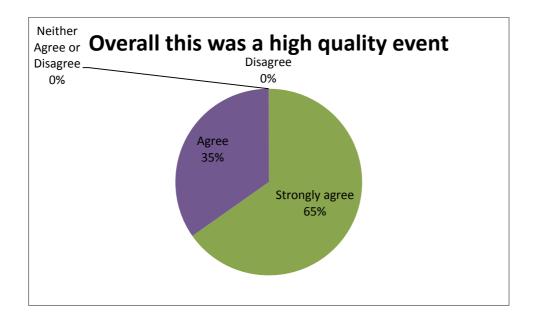
We have met heads/Deans of colleges from the Public Authority for Applied education and training, and Deans College of Engineering at Kuwait University. We were very well received and all of them were thankful to the British Council for bringing these academics/delegates from the UK. There were lots of mutual interest generated and new ideas discussed which led to a very positive atmosphere all round.

Exhibitor's Feedback

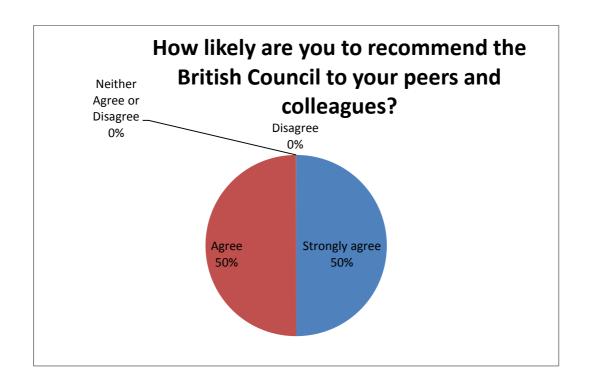
Expectations



Quality



Recommendation



Some positive quotes from exhibitors:

- Very well organized tour
- Growing demand for UG and Engineering programs
- Considering the size of the country big number opt for student in the UK and a lot of opportunities for academic partnerships exists
- Meetings with the Deans at PAAET and Kuwait University very useful
- The tour has served the purpose of partnerships opportunities and student recruitment
- School visits were very well attended
- The market briefing session provided useful information and prepared us for the meetings ahead of the tour
- More of these type of tours should be conducted

List of Exhibitors:

No.	Institution
1	University Of Plymouth
2	University Of Huddersfield
3	University Of Salford
4	Queen Mary University Of London
5	University Of Brighton
6	Swansea University
7	University Of Strathclyde

Future steps

There are several areas that both British Council and the UK institutions can work on to improve the overall arrangement and outcomes of the tour. The main findings and recommended next steps are outlined below:

British Council

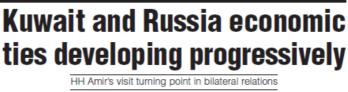
- British Council understands the importance of providing value-added services to the
 exhibitors, thus we are planning to hold a networking event with local agents and
 school counsellors, in order to provide a platform for UK institutions and agents to
 meet up, and identify possible collaboration opportunities.
- For promotion, the British Council actually has done more promotion compared to last year; however there were other organisations and some education agencies conducting education exhibitions in November, which affected visitor numbers.

UK Institutions

- It is suggested that institutions invite their alumni to attend future exhibitions and share tales of their life in UK with the visitors.
- It is highly recommended to institutions that they regularly follow up with the outcome of the meetings with KU and PAAET and provide proposals on agreed potential joint ventures.
- Institutions should consider aim to provide the BC with a subject matrix prior to the exhibition, to help reduce gueues at stalls where institutions don't provide the course.
- Many visitors commented that scholarships opportunities were very low. We recommend institutions to look at ways of providing some sort of scholarship or discount and highlight these during future exhibitions
- Institutions are encouraged to send academics for subject specific study tours as technical details of the area of expertise is usually required during meetings with key ministries/public education institutions.
- Exhibitors can also promote the Exhibition on their own website, newsletter or email blast to gain more public interest.

The above points, though important, should not detract from what was a successful tour.

LOCAL









KUWAIT CITY, Nov 8, (KUNA): Economic and trade relations between Kuwait and Russia have been progressing with the two countries showing more keenness for cement-ing ties and cooperation in different domains. His Hishposs the Amir Sheikh

different domains.

His Highness the Amir Sheikh
Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber AlSabah S November 10th visit to
Sochi, Russia, will be a turning
point in billateral ties, az
investors from the two countries
are looking forward for key resolutions by the Kuwaiti and
Russian leaders to further activalue economic cooperation and
encourage investment.
Kwawil-Russian trade exchange
ties not match the huge capabilities
of the two autions.



Dean of the faculty of Engineering and Periodium at Kuesti University (KU) Dr. Hausein Al-Khiyari received a dis-ception from British universities which also in the regime cooperations with KU is professional, faming and tell fill fails and the facility of the facility of the fails of the

Kuwait, Kurdistan tackle cultural, sports ties

Gazprom Chairman Vikior Zubkov, in a previous statement to KUNA, said Kuwali and Russia could have good cooperation in fleid of LNG, specially after Kuwali installed LNG-related facilities. Kuwali also hosted last year a del-egation from the Arab-Russian

Mohammad VI and

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Pressure builds

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ment Speaker Marzouq Al-Due to the barrage of criti-ainst him, the press was eager about the contents of the meet-the minister merely said,

Hillians to Hillians and American to discuss it."

He also called for finding the best way to approve the proposal on the appointment to leadership positions because some officials are against it.

Over 50

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Kuwait University meeting photo published in local newspaper



Schools visit



Schools visits and presentations



School visits



Student counselling



Student counselling



Student counselling



Presentations at PAAET by academics and delegates



Presentations at PAAET by academics and delegates

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Presentations at PAAET by academics and delegates



Deans of CTS PAAET along with UK delegates

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Al Rayah Student Union organization for Kuwait students in UK & Ireland