

UK MBA/Postgraduate Roadshow 2014

1. Summary

The Education UK Roadshow was a 3-day event organised by the British Council in Colombia to promote UK as the best international study destination. This was a platform to reach the Colombian students seeking opportunities to study postgraduate and MBA degrees within the UK.

For the second consecutive year, the UK MBA/Postgraduate Roadshow took its tour of three of Colombia's major cities for international education, namely Medellin, Bogota and Cali from the 19th to 26th November 2014. This had the participation of 18 UK universities with 30 delegates who used this opportunity to recruit highly promising Colombians for Postgraduate degrees in the next academic year. The event registered close to 1000 applications from high calibre students who had to meet prerequisites such as advanced English levels, excellent academic records and professional experience. Visiting UK delegates were very pleased with the quality of visitors and commented on the excellent levels of English and academic credits.

The Roadshow also opened doors for discussions towards institutional collaborations between Directors of International Relations officers from top universities in these cities. Bogota had the presence of 14 universities, among them, the Universidad de Los Andes, Universidad Nacional, Universidad del Rosario, La Catolica, Santo Tomas, Externado, whilst Medellin, with 8 local universities participating had the presence of Universidad Pontificia Bolivariana, CES, Universidad de Antioquia. Cali had an equally interesting set of meetings with 13 local Higher Education Institutes including the Pontificia Universidad Javeriana, Universidad del Valle and ICESI. Some universities, such as Reading and Birmingham city had follow-up meetings with local HEI after this session to firm up plans for partnerships.

Our local partners, ICETEX and Colfuturo, were also very instrumental in giving a better perspective on what is on offer to Colombian students, especially in terms of financing. Chevening and UK visas also presented information to delegates and students on processes for acquiring scholarships and visas. This event, was aimed not only at connecting Colombian students to UK institutes, but also created a platform for interaction and exchanges of best institutional practices.

The main **objectives** of the event were:

- To strengthen the UK's reputation as a world leader for education and position the UK as the first choice for Colombian students planning to study abroad
- To encourage the brightest and best students from Colombia to assist to the event and enrol the universities' programs
- To create opportunities for UK education providers to expand and grow the market in Colombia and showcase promote British Higher Education programmes (MBAs and Postgraduate)

2. Programme

Date	Time	Location	Activity
Tuesday, 18 November, 2014	Arrival in Medellin		
	09.30-09.55		Set-up stands
	10.00–11.00		Welcome and Colombia Market Brief Presentation by ICETEX
Wednesday,19 November, 2014	11.00–12.30	Hotel San Fernando Plaza (Medellín)	Speed Dates with Local Universities
	12.30–13.30		Lunch
	14.00–18.00		Meetings with prospective students
	19.30–21.00		Dinner Reception
Thursday, 20 November, 2014		Trave	l to Bogota
	09.30–09.55	Hotel Radisson (Bogotá)	Set-up stands
	10.00–11.00		Presentations by COLFUTURO, UK Visas & Chevening
Friday, 21 November	11.00–12.30		Speed Dates with Local Universities
2014	12.30–13.30		Lunch
	14.00–18.00		Meetings with prospective students
	18.10–18.30		Welcome drinks
Saturday-Monday 22- 24 Nov. 2014		Free time	
Tuesday, 25 November, 2014	Arrival in Cali		
	10.30	Hotel Marriot (Cali)	Set-up stands
	11.00–12.30		Speed Dates with Local Universities
Wednesday, 26 November, 2014	12.30–13.30		Lunch
	14.00–18.00		Meetings with prospective students
	19.00–21.00		Dinner @ El Platillo Volador (optional)
Thurs. 27 ^h Nov. 2014		De	partures

3. Dates and Venues:

3 mini fairs at Hotels in strategic locations within each city for easy access by visitors.

Date	City	Venue – Address	Hours for visitors
19 Nov 2013	Medellin	Hotel San Fernando Plaza	14.00 – 18.00
21 Nov 2013	Bogotá	Hotel Radisson	14.00 – 18.00
26 Nov 2013	Cali	Hotel Marriot	14.00 – 18.00

4. Participating UK Institutions:

1	BPP University
2	De Montfort University
3	Middlesex University
4	University Of Essex
5	The University Of Nottingham
6	Hult International Business School
7	University of Dundee
8	University of the West Of England
9	University of St Andrews
10	University Of Reading
11	University Of Kent
12	Northumbria University
13	Birmingham City University
14	Queen's University Belfast
15	Sheffield University Management School
16	University of Strathclyde
17	Cardiff Metropolitan University
18	University of Northampton (Business School)

5. Participating Local Higher Education Institutes

Medellin	Bogota	Cali
Colegiatura	Universidad Católica de Colombia	Universidad del Valle
Universidad CES	Universidad de los Andes	Universidad Icesi
Universidad Pontificia Bolivariana	Pontificia Universidad Javeriana	Universidad San Buenaventura

EAFIT Escuela de Ingeniería de Antioquia	Universidad Santo Tomas	Universidad Santiago de Cali
Corporación universitaria de ciencia y tecnología de Colombia	Universidad Pedagógica Nacional	Pontificia Universidad Javeriana Cali
Universidad Santo Tomas	Universidad Cooperativa de Colombia	Instituto Departamental de Bellas Artes
Inst. Universitaria CEIPA	Universidad Libre	ICESI
Universidad Nacional de Colombia	Universidad Piloto de Colombia	Univ. Autonoma
	Corporación Universitaria Iberoamericana	Corporación Universitaria Centro Superior UNICUCES
	Universidad Externado de Colombia	Copr.Univ. de los Andes
	Universidad Católica de Colombia	Instituto Universitario Antonio José Camacho IUAJC
	Universidad Sergio Arboleda	Universidad Cooperativa de Colombia
	Universidad del Rosario	Fund. Univ.Catolica Lumen
	Universidad La Gran Colombia	

6. Visitors Information:

We had very high quality visitors at this fair who had the right educational background and who were interested in Higher Education in the UK, mostly young professionals. Close to 1000 registered and these were allotted individual time slots after they had been pre-selected based on criteria below:

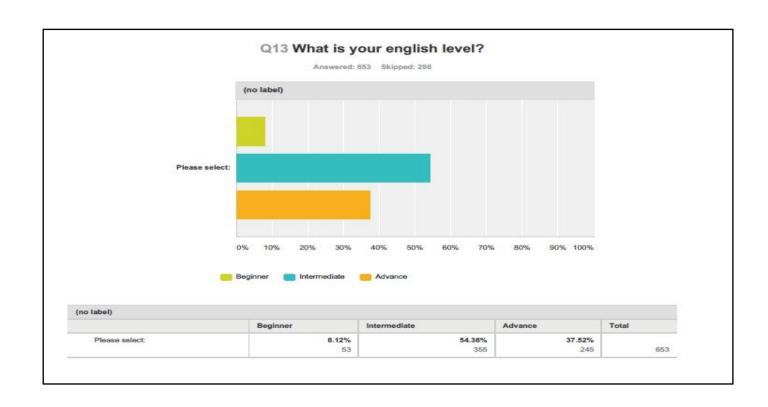
- High English level (advanced preferred)
- Have completed undergraduate degree or in process of completion
- High academic records
- Interested in studying a postgraduate or MBA degree in the UK
- Ready to study as soon as possible (preferably in 2015)

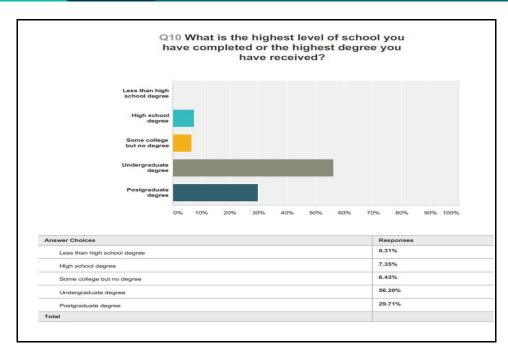
NB: See statistics on responses to these criteria above in section 5:

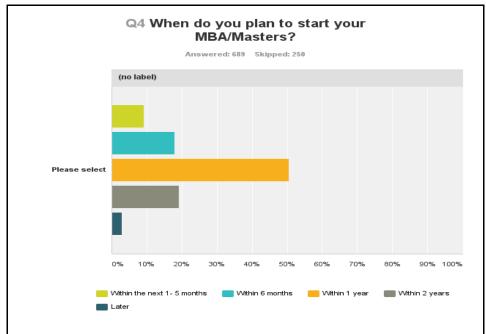
Meetings Pre-Scheduled Per University			
Bogota	Medellin	Cali	
33%	28%	15%	

Out of 1000 registered, **76.87% were pre-selected** based on the criteria of levels of English, possession of an undergraduate degree, readiness to study within the academic year 2015-16 as well as criteria listed on page 4.

Demographics of visitors at UK MBA/Postgraduate Roadshow 2014		
Age		
16 – 20	7%	
21-25	37%	
26 +	55.7%	







How do you plan to finance your education?

Answer Choices	Responses	
I will probably apply for a loan	81.04%	547
I am able to finance my studies	12.44%	84
I already have a scholarship	6.52%	44
otal		675

7. Advertising and PR

The advertising campaign for the Roadshow was focused in promoting the event through the BC's communication channels and the local institutions involved. Calls for registrations were done in English to ensure the calibre of visitors expected. Below are some of the promotion activities:

- Working with independent media for free press
- PR activities with local media contacts and local institutions (including interview on TV, Radio and magazines)
- Via local universities networks in 3 cities and Funding Bodies networks
- Promo on British Council corporate website with profiles of attending Universities
- Social media campaign (Facebook, linked-in and Twitter) reaching our target group
- Through teaching centre & Exams networks in Bogota, Cali & Medellin
- Print: Posters/cupholders for cafeterias/page markers distributed at fairs, exams centres in 3-cities as well as office reception area.
- External Education Fairs & Presentations on UK HE
- Targeted Mail shots to over 25,000 constant contacts
- Circulated mails to contacts in over 333 companies in the 3 cities
- Monthly Newsletter
- Promotional info on TV in reception area of BC office (with approx. 930 visitors a day)
- Information on Roadshow voice recorded and played (on hold) for all calls coming through to BC
- Link of event in Email-signature of Education team and customer services.

Clippings of Media Coverage





DIARIO OCCIDENTE, lunes, 27 de octubre de 2014

Reconocimiento
El caleño Alejandro Enríquez Marulanda, estudiante de

Medicina de noveno semestre de la Universidad lossi de Cali, fue calificado como el mejor médico interno de Colombia: 2014 por la Asociación. Colombiana de Facultades de Medicina, Asociame, con el propósito de reconocer las calidades académicas de los estudiantes de último año o médicos internos de los programas de Medicina ofrecidos en el país. Al examen se presentaron 386 internos aspirantes de todo el país.

■ Convocatoria

Diensiete de las majores universidades del Reino Unido estarán en Cali el 26 de noviembro con el fin de conocer en persona a los colombianos interesados en mejorar su perfil profesional y perfeccionar sus estudios a través de un posigrado, MBA o maestria. El evento está dirigido a profesionales que está interesados en mejorar su camera profesional. Las inscripciones para asistir al evento son hasta el 31 de octubre a través de la página web http://www.britishco.uncil.co/



Interview CM& TV





















8. Exhibitors' feedback

Overall, the Roadshow was rated positively for being a high quality event. Some positive feedback from exhibitors includes:

"Helpers were excellent" – Donna Houghton, Regional Manager (Americas) at De Montfort University

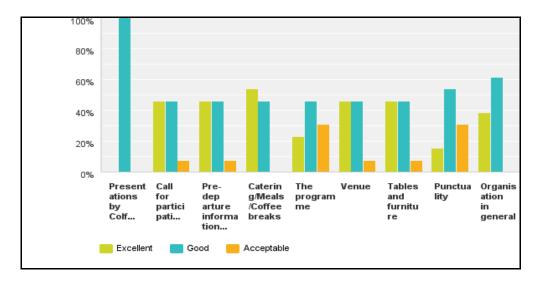
"Very impressed with quality of students" – David Broomby, International Officer at the University of Sheffield

"...BC staff and helpers were very helpful throughout the day. Good organisation" - **Stefanie Eminger**, **Senior International Officer**, **University of St Andrews**

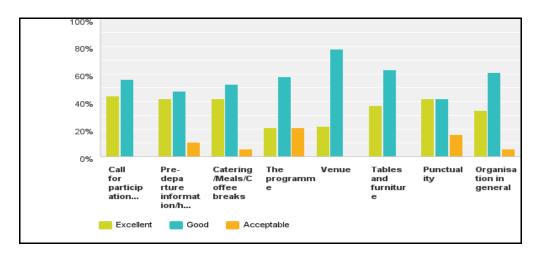
"...Overall quality of students was very high. Most have great academic records and I've had some good leads." - Head of Student Recruitment & Marketing Sheffield University Management School.

"The event was well organized and we've had some good leads." Rafael Minauro, In-Country Commercial Manager for Colombia, BPP University

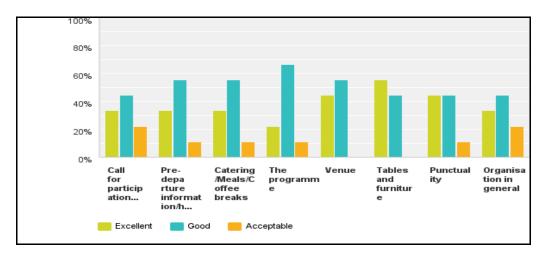
Please rate the following aspects of the Education UK MBA Roadshow in Bogotá



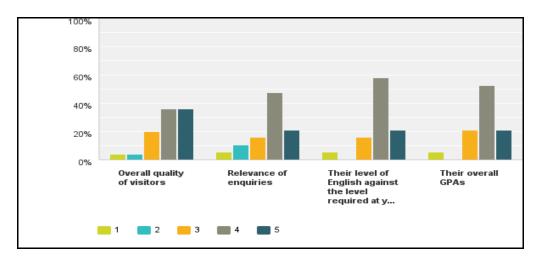
Please rate the following aspects of the Education UK MBA Roadshow in Medellin



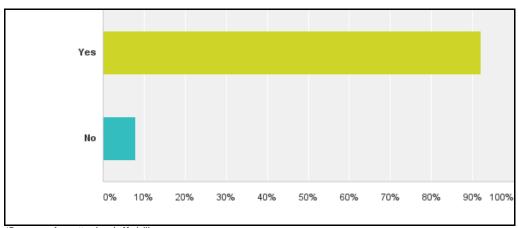
Please rate the following aspects of the Education UK MBA Roadshow in Cali



Please rate the following with regards to the enquiries from visitors (1=Poor; 5=Excellent)

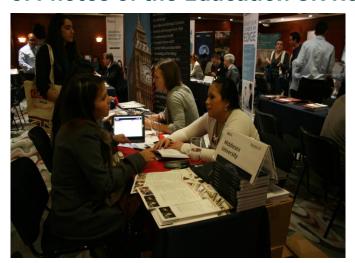


Would you sign up for another Education UK MBA/Postgraduate organized by the British Council?



*Responses from attendees in Medellin

9. Photos of the Education UK Roadshow













10. Students comments about institutions

- There are always questions about scholarships so it is important to have a table with information on how to apply for a scholarship.
- Some had backgrounds in fields that weren't related to business and wished to explore
 possibilities of changing and wished some universities had been more receptive in that
 sense.
- Information provided by universities were very useful.
- Event was very well organized and very little waiting time due to schedules assigned.

11. British Council – Future recommendations

- Through feedback from similar fairs held in the past, a filter was used to attract and assign students per time-slots to universities. This will be re-looked at in the future to assign batch meetings within a time slot to avoid delays from visitors.
- Venues selected were excellently located to ensure easy access by visitors from various parts of the city. Weather conditions however, weren't anticipated and will be considered for future activities.
- Overall logistics and organisation in general was rated very positively from exhibitors most
 of whom had a good time despite the hectic schedule. We do accede to the fact that not all
 officials are interested in meetings with local educational stakeholders and will consider this
 as an optional activity for the future.
- The Roadshow was rated positively for being a high quality event.