

REGIONAL REPORT – COLUMBIA



PMI Global Congress Latin America 2008

Why in Colombia?

By: Germán Bernate

President PMI Santafé de Bogotá Chapter

Introduction and Translation By: Ana María Rodríguez

International Correspondent for PMForum.org

Rodriguez: The Bogota chapter of the Project Management Institute (PMI®) has launched a campaign to obtain international support for its idea of hosting the 2008 Global Congress Latin America in Colombia, specifically at Cartagena de Indias. Even though locations for 2008 North America, EMEA and Asia PMI's global congresses have already being announced, the location for the Latin America global congress is not known yet. Hence, the PMI Santafé de Bogota chapter is making an important effort to get attention to its proposal. Its President, Mr. Germán Bernate, wrote this article as a means to share his ideas for hosting the congress in Cartagena de Indias.

The Project Management profession has different attractions. To begin, all of whom embrace this profession have a great admiration for the systemic work. Yes, systemic, it means they learn to solve any problem by analyzing it as a whole.

Why is this fundamental sentence mentioned? Because of a simple reason: The Santafé de Bogotá Chapter of the Project Management Institute wants to show to all the international community the excellences of Colombia. Here comes again in our help the concept of systemic: "To belong to the relative or to the totally of a system". We want to announce to the whole world that Colombia is a country full of joy, progress, and wishes to contribute to the development of our nation and to the whole world.

Now we can announce with pride and strength that our Gross Domestic Product (GDP) is growing at a 5.9% annual rate. We are in the concert of nations that grow in a vigorous mean. All the citizens are joined in the effort to grow and to offer to the whole world products with valuable added value. Foreign investors are seeing a good business perspective in the Country and have increased their capitals. A great success!

The PMI - Santafé de Bogotá Chapter-is completely aligned with the general strategy of the country and with the established growth goals. We want to show to the international community our leadership capacity. We want all to know that we have great challenges but we have achieved great success by applying Best Practices that are taught by PMI.

We are also anxious of inviting our colleagues to meet our pride city: Cartagena de Indias. The dream will accompany visitors, without difference of nation, race or religion, they all remember with illusion the origin of all countries.



Ciudad Amurallada

Who walks though Cartagena's walled city will have, without any doubt, memories of their childhood, no matter how recent it is. Histories of Pirates and thieves are in the most hidden part of their minds. Could any of the readers forget histories of Christopher Columbus? Or those of pirates from many nations that chased ships full of gold? Or those youth histories which made us shake with the gait of Catalina India, fighting for the wealth of her nation?

In the actual world, Cartagena de Indias is a phenomenal tourist destiny. It offers all modern hotel systems. Luxury rooms with all facilities required by executives. The Convention Center offers rooms with all required capacity. One special room, the Getsemany, may gather 1200 congress attendees.



Cartagena Modern Area

Security is a treasure. The walled city offers to the visitor all type of restaurants and clubs, with all modern safety issues. The visitor enjoys the charm of fantastic tropical music and has the possibility to learn to dance Colombian Caribbean rhythms.

All will be joy, and the good exchange of knowledge will be held between all members of PMI. We are expecting all of you with expectation.

Germán Bernate
President –Santafé de Bogotá PMI Chapter

November de 2006.

About the Author:***Germán Bernate***

Germán Bernate is one of the founders of the PMI Santafé de Bogotá Chapter. He holds a degree in Electronic Engineering (1962), born in Bogotá, he has worked on information technology field since 1963. His passion for Project Management comes from 1974, when he first took a course in the topic. During his professional life, he has written about Project Management, Balanced Scorecard, Quality Management, and in general Management issues. In 1992 Germán won the first award of the fourth edition of the literary contest "Dr. Mariano Zumel" in Madrid, Spain. He is manager at Large for South America of the SIG Metrics.

Now at his new responsibility as president of PMI Santafe de Bogota Chapter he has focused all his efforts in bringing the PMI Global Congress Latin America 2008, to Cartagena de Indias. His main dream is to show to the global community that Colombia is a country full of opportunities. That all visitors and investors could walk through the streets of Cartagena de Indias, the heroic city, as our ancestors did, with quietness, wishing to find interior peace.

In November 2008 the date is in Cartagena de Indias.