



# Brief report concerning the establishing of Karagwe University College, KARUCO

Rural Economy and Agricultural Society of Skaraborg  
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Hushållnings  
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## **Brief report concerning the establishing of Karagwe University College, KARUCO, by Per Ove Persson and Magnus Fredricson**

This report is based on our impressions and thoughts after visiting the area and meeting different people in the last week of January 2016. We would like to extend our warm thanks to the management team and other personnel with the Karagwe Diocese as well as other people who generously shared their experiences and thoughts with us.

In our thinking a university has three responsibilities:

1. Scientific research and development
2. Education and graduation of students
3. Dissemination of knowledge to the society, including business-knowledge support/ -incubator

Cooperation and collaboration with local partners will provide opportunities for KARUCO to address two out of three responsibilities, numbers one and three above. Obstacles include financing and mitigating conflicts of interests between different projects. But if it is possible to find a win – win solution it can really strengthen all partners involved.

Our findings and some tentative ideas:

1. Community outreach is a vital part of the KARUCO initiative and can launch prior to the formal opening of KARUCO as a beneficial part of the “plan B” mentioned in our conversations with the management team.
2. We met with Chema and Manuvo who generously shared knowledge and described their current initiatives. They have no less than 1400 or more households in their networks, as well as suitable structures and methods in place. However a comprehensive plan or structure for strengthening the agricultural sector in Karagwe is not yet in place.

Based on this We propose establishing cooperation with them and other regional partners that already have established structures for research and support to local farmers.

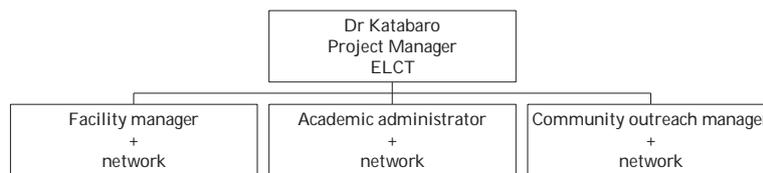
3. We propose moving forward to recruit university staff to work with community outreach, proposals for funding for participatory research for instance by test plots in different villages and research connected to KARUCO. The partners mentioned above have parts of this scientific work in place already.

4. As stated above, one part of dissemination is to provide support for business development. This could also contribute a revenue stream for the college. Our surveying unveiled several ideas suitable for further development in a business incubator connected with KARUCO, ideas including:

- Beekeeping and honey production, including potential for export.
- Roasted nuts, also possible to export.
- Dried fruits, already exported to Europe but with a big potential for expansion.
- Coffee and coffee products, possible to export.
- Sunflower oil, with possible expansion to reach a regional or national market.
- Development of different milk products such as yogurt and butter for local & regional markets.
- Broiler and egg production for the local market.

The organization supporting the KARUCO initiative needs to be amended to support this development, transforming from a current project based approach to an operations based one, including a community outreach manager.

We propose an organization as follows, to enable the KARUCO initiative to come to fruition:



The titles are, of course, tentative and may need to be adapted for legal, practical or other reasons.

We suggest that each manager is supported by a network where Hushållningssällskapet will submit proposals in collaboration with KAD to secure financing for the community outreach manager and support for it.

Tentative responsibilities for the different roles could include:

**Project manager**

- Relations with Karagwe Diocese
- Relations with donors and fundraising
- Planning and prioritizing
- Budget
- Overall communications

Facility manager	Academic administrator	Community outreach manager
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Buildings</li> <li>• Electricity</li> <li>• Water</li> <li>• Internet connection / fiber network</li> <li>• Land use</li> <li>• Landscape</li> <li>• Roads</li> <li>• Fences</li> <li>• Furniture</li> <li>• Lab equipment</li> <li>• IT</li> <li>• and more</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Design student recruitment process(es)</li> <li>• Faculty recruitment process</li> <li>• Hiring</li> <li>• Professional development/faculty</li> <li>• Curriculum</li> <li>• Licenses, approvals, permissions</li> <li>• Identify and secure appropriate technology</li> <li>• Collaborate with Community Outreach manager to establish “Business Incubator”</li> <li>• Research KARUCO impact</li> <li>• and more</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Comprehensive plan for community outreach and local development of agriculture</li> <li>• Building relationships with other organizations as Chema, Manuvo and others.</li> <li>• Participatory research and development</li> <li>• Business development for KARUCO</li> <li>• Establishing a “business incubator” at / within KARUCO</li> <li>• and more</li> </ul>

**Addendum, gender equality**

Bishop Benson Bagonza has noted that:

*“Agriculture in Tanzania, unlike perennial understanding, has to do more with women than men. To deal with agriculture without considering women, is to fail before we start.*

*Gender equality is at the heart of our commitment for sustainable development in Karagwe and Tanzania.”*

We fully embrace and support this. We have, however, at this stage not directed our surveying in this specific direction. We have therefore not been able to address gender issues in this report.

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