

The Karawa Coffee Project

REDUCE EXTREME POVERTY | ENHANCE FOOD SECURITY | BUILD THE ECONOMY

paulcarlson.org/coffee



PAUL CARLSON
PARTNERSHIP

The Karawa Coffee Project

Paul Carlson Partnership, Café Africa, and the Covenant Church of Congo engage in a three-way partnership to work with small-scale coffee producers, with the goal to **reduce extreme poverty, enhance food security, and build the local economy**, through the revitalization of Robusta coffee production and export in northwest DR Congo. By training and equipping people to grow and sell coffee, the local economy can be revitalized, increasing the livelihoods of thousands of families in the area.

- **Paul Carlson Partnership (PCP)** has funded the initial 4 years of the project, and will continue funding on a sliding scale as the coffee cooperative grows. From seed to cup, the first 4 years included purchasing disease resistant seeds and proper agricultural equipment, and providing training for coffee producers.
- **Café Africa**, a non-governmental organization (NGO) based in DR Congo, is training the producers in Karawa how to successfully plant, nurture, harvest, and export coffee.
- **The Covenant Church of Congo (CEUM)** is our long-term partner and coffee producers are members of the church.



Why Revitalize Coffee in DR Congo?

To understand why PCP would engage in the revitalization of coffee in DR Congo, you must begin with its history.



Coffee Collapse and Comeback

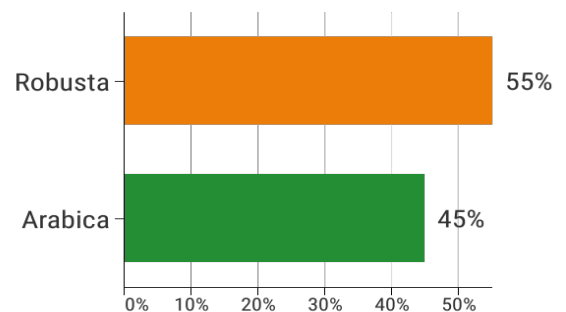
In the Ubangi region where the Covenant Church of Congo (CEUM) ministers, cultivation of Robusta coffee (“black gold”) was the main source of income in the 1980s. Coffee growing is passed down through generations, and families remember the success of growing coffee before the wars of the 1990s wiped out the region’s economy. Fungal disease affecting the coffee crops also impacted the amount of production and export. The quick collapse of the coffee sector plunged the population of Ubangi into disarray and affected rural areas, making it difficult for residents to access education, healthcare, water, and sanitation. Since then, the market has resumed and the prospects, notably for Robusta coffee, appear favorable.

Karawa Coffee is Robusta Coffee

Robusta coffee (*coffea canephora*) is grown in lower altitudes, and can withstand warmer temperatures than Arabica. It is more resistant to disease, and easier to grow. Robusta has a distinctive taste and contains 50-60% more caffeine than Arabica.

Local Ownership

The Karawa Coffee Project is designed to be 100% owned by the coffee producers. This will be achieved through training in good agricultural and business practices, and by organizing the producers into a cooperative in order to provide long-term support for export and other services, and to safeguard producer interests in the marketing of their crops.



Robusta's Expected Growth by 2030



Gaspy Zongalinga
Karawa coffee producer

"Coffee is the only resource that helped develop our province effectively. But when there was no longer a coffee business around, our local economy went down. Even during difficult times, coffee helps me stabilize my family finances, healthcare, and get my kids the needed education. Because of coffee, I cannot stay penniless for long."

2022 Facts at a Glance



2,188 producers
2039 men; 149 women



1,190,000 seedlings



88 associations



1,729 hectares planted
647 restored, 1,082 new

From Seed to Cup



Collect

Producers from four axes aggregate their coffee to sell locally and for global export.



Ship

Coffee is loaded onto a truck, then shipped by boat to the capital, Kinshasa.



Export

Coffee is exported in large shipping containers around the world.



Import

Roasters receive the coffee, and sell roasted coffee to retailers.



Enjoy

Consumers enjoy Karawa coffee!

Timeline

Project Launch

The Karawa Coffee Project was launched on December 15, 2017, in partnership with PCP, Café Africa, and the Covenant Church of Congo.



2017

Nurturing Fields & Transferring Plants

- producers continued to nurture coffee plants, prepared the fields, and planted intercrops
- business training for producers
- coffee plants transferred to the fields
- first harvest of pre-existing rejuvenated coffee trees



2019

Establish Cooperative

- Karawa Coffee is available for purchase in the U.S.
- FUPROCAF (Fédération des Unions des Producteurs du Café de l'Ubangi (the Ubangi Federation of Coffee Producers) is established
- fall 2021 harvest, 200-300 metric tons



2021

Congo Market

- 600-700 metric tons expected
- strengthening regional and national sales

2023



2018



2020



2022

Training & Cultivating

- 1,400 producers received agriculture and business training and organized into associations in 4 areas near Karawa
- approximately 900,000 seeds germinated, planted, and cultivated in shaded nurseries

First Harvest

- producers maintained and cultivated their new coffee fields for first harvest to sell, fall 2020
- producers legally established their associations toward forming a coffee cooperative
- producers trained to build governance capacity for the cooperative

Commercial Growth

- local, regional, national, and international sales
- FUPROCAF advisory board established
- 300-500 metric tons of coffee expected for fall 2022 harvest

Global Strategy

- 800-1,000 metric tons expected
- expansion of international sales

Outcomes

In the short term

Improve productivity and increase the production of coffee and associated food crops through training in good agricultural practices for local, national, and international markets.

In the long term

Improve the incomes of small farmholders and their livelihoods through their consolidation in a cooperative or union of associations.

The Karawa Coffee Project

Learn more: paulcarlson.org/coffee

Give online: paulcarlson.org/give

Order Karawa coffee: roaster.everybodyscoffee.com/karawa



paulcarlson.org

(773) 907-3302

pcpinfo@paulcarlson.org

PAUL CARLSON
PARTNERSHIP

8303 West Higgins Road
Chicago, IL 60631