

# Karim Harbott, MSc, Cert IoD

## Overview

Karim is a leadership and business agility expert, entrepreneur, author, non-executive director, and international keynote speaker. He has 20 years' experience in digital product development, and over a decade of experience helping organisations with business agility, working with some of the most complex organisations anywhere in the world. Karim's work involves advising on business agility, agile at scale, leadership development, culture change, strategy and innovation.

Karim stresses pragmatic, context-appropriate approaches over rigid out-of-the-box solutions. He has held several senior roles in the agile space including **Head of Scaled Agile** at global strategy consultancy **McKinsey & Co** where he led the development of their global agile transformation strategy.

Karim is one of only a handful of people globally to hold the **Certified Agile Leadership (CAL) Educator**, **Certified Scrum Trainer® (CST)**, and **Certified Enterprise Coach® (CEC)** status. He is also an **ICF Professional Certified Coach® (PCC)** and **Certified LeadershipAgility® 360 Coach**.

In 2016, Karim co-founded **Agile Centre**, a leading training and consulting organisation based in London, UK. In 2020, he co-founded the **Business Agility Academy**, the leading international business agility certification body. He is the creator of the **Business Agility Canvas**, a widely-used strategic tool for driving agile transformations. He also serves as a **non executive director at the Scrum Alliance**, and is the author of the best-selling book **The 6 Enablers of Business Agility: How to Thrive in an Uncertain World**.



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[Karim's Blog](#)



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[@KarimHarbott](#)

## Employment Experience

**2020-present - Co-founder & Co-CEO at Business Agility Academy:** Karim is co-CEO and chief strategist.

**2016-present - Co-founder & Co-CEO at Agile Centre:** Karim is a Co-CEO, Chief Strategist, Chief Innovation Officer, and principle business agility consultant. Karim has guided the organisation from its inception, to market-leader, with a multi-million pound annual revenue.

**2015-2016 - Business Agility Coach at Barclays UK:** Karim advised on organisational design and was a key player in reforming the group-wide governance and funding model in a highly regulated environment.

**2013-2015 - Head of Scaled Agile at McKinsey & Company:** Karim built the EMEA team and led the agile transformation approach whilst advising multiple clients on their agile journey.

**2008-2013 - Scrum Master / Agile Coach at various organisations:** Working with teams and leadership Karim advised on increasing agility and delivering value whilst significantly shortening time to market.

**2003-2008 - Software Engineer at John Lewis Partnership:** Karim developed large mainframe systems and enterprise Java applications.

## Board Experience

**2020-present - Non Executive Director at *Scrum Alliance*:** Karim provides corporate governance with a particular focus on strategy, innovation and developing new revenue streams. He sits on the *Nomination Committee*, and the *Audit & Finance Committee*.

## Education & Professional Certifications

**MSc Innovation and Entrepreneurship:** HEC Paris (*Grade: Distinction - pending*)

**BSc Mathematics:** University of Southampton

**Certificate in Company Direction:** Institute of Directors (*Grade: Distinction*)

- Award: *The Role of the Director and the Board*
- Award: *Finance for Non-Finance Directors*
- Award: *Strategy for Directors*
- Award: *Leadership for Directors*

**Professional Certified Coach®:** International Coach Federation

**Certified Leadership Agility® 360 Coach**

**Certified Business Agility Coach® - Expert Level:** Business Agility Academy

**Certified Scrum Trainer®:** The Scrum Alliance

**Certified Enterprise Coach®:** The Scrum Alliance

**Certified Team Coach®:** The Scrum Alliance