



Vice President Corporate Development, SAP SE
Board Member Aleph Alpha

Deepa Gautam-Nigge works in Corporate Development with a focus on M&A and strategic investments at the technology group SAP. As a 'mediator between the worlds', she ensures that young talents work together with established companies and suitable start-ups on the solutions of tomorrow. An expert in platform business models, she is a sought-after consultant for start-ups as well as for companies such as KubikX, a subsidiary Schmitz Cargobull AG.

As an advocate of diversity, she is convinced that innovation can only arise if the collective intelligence of a diverse network is utilised.

Deepa studied business administration at RWTH Aachen University from 1996 to 2001, specialising in technology and innovation management, and began her career over 20 years ago in a VC-funded spin-off of the university, which established one of the first B2B platform business models in Germany at the time. Prior to her current position at SAP, she was Global Lead SAP Next-Gen Ecosystem.

The publisher of the book #Ecosystem Innovation is a regular guest lecturer at various universities such as the Technical University of Munich, the EBS University of Business and Law and the University of St. Gallen, as well as a start-up mentor. She is also a board member of Schmitz Cargobull and Aleph Alpha, chairwoman of the foundation board of the RWTH Aachen University Foundation and a member of the advisory board of the Digital Hub (de:hub) initiative of the Federal Ministry of Economics and Climate Protection.

She was honoured by FOCUS magazine as one of the 100 Women of the Year 2022. The business magazine Business Insider named her as one of the top 25 future-makers who are changing and shaping the German economy. For Handelsblatt, Deepa is 'a role model for a new generation of innovation managers'.

As a keynote speaker, she vividly demonstrates how new disruptive business models, increasing digitalisation and the democratisation of technologies are changing the requirements and context of innovation, thereby increasing the importance of speed, people and the right strategy.

Topics (Selection):

- Germany as a place for innovation
- Innovation Scepticism
- Bridging the gap between the corporate world and the start-up world•
- AI in the context of sustainability, new working environments, diversity