



Arnab Mandal

Arnab Mandal is a polymath with keen interests in Development, Innovation and Entrepreneurship. At Tata Trusts, Arnab drives the organization's work at the intersection of Impact Measurement, Process Excellence and Digital Transformation to improve outcomes from \$270 Million annual funding. Earlier, he managed a \$17 Million Digital Development program. As part of a UNESCO global panel, Arnab co-authored a landmark report on Digital Education.

Arnab is an Honorary Ambassador of *German Indian Start-up Exchange Program* (GINSEP) and a Mentor under Start-up India program of the government. He is also an active Angel Investor with multiple startups with unicorn potential in his portfolio. He is associated with almost all leading angel networks and maintains close connections with several VCs in India.

In the past Arnab has worked on research & consulting assignments funded by agencies such as UNDP, JICA, DFID, USAID, Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, Govt. of India, etc. In January, 2012, at the age of 25, Arnab was invited by MIT Sloan School of Management to speak on Green Economy at the US Congress, Washington DC and the UN Headquarters, New York. In the same year, he visited FU Berlin as DAAD Scholar in Public Policy. His report on "*Sustainable Development Strategy: Lessons from the EU*" was a contribution to the *German-Indian Sustainability and Climate Change Dialogue*. Arnab completed Master's in Sustainable Development Practice (Global MDP) conducted by TERI in collaboration with MacArthur Foundation and Columbia University. He also holds a Bachelor of Engineering degree in ICT from IEST Shibpur. He started his career with IBM in 2008.

https://www.polsoz.fuberlin.de/en/polwiss/forschung/grundlagen/ffn/lehre/student_exchange/gisccd/mandal_arnab/index.html



Dadhichi Paretkar

Dadhichi Paretkar is an innovation and transfer enthusiast with broad materials science background with over 5 years of innovation project management experience in multi-competence global technology projects across renewable energy, man-machine interface and smart-functional surfaces sectors for international companies and universities.

He supports academics, researchers and research management at the University of Cologne in the present role as a Transfer scout in nurturing scientific innovation into commercial and social enterprise opportunities thus achieving knowledge transfer and research impact.

He works at Gateway Excellence Start-up Center, University of Cologne as part of the Mathematics and Natural Sciences Faculty with focus on transfer within Material Science area.

THE GATEWAY ESC SUPPORTS STUDENTS FROM THEIR INITIAL IDEA TO THE FOUNDING OF THEIR STARTUP, AS WELL AS FOCUSES ON SHAPING THE RHINELAND AS A SUSTAINABLE INNOVATION REGION.

WE CREATE SPACE FOR STARTUPS & TRANSFER

The Gateway Excellence Startup Center (ESC) at the University of Cologne (UoC) offers a comprehensive approach to promote startups from within the university, and, additionally, boosts transfer projects in excellent research areas.

The project was funded by the Ministry of Economics of the state of North Rhine-Westphalia. It ties in with the university's Gateway Startup Service, which has already been in place since 2015. We provide students, graduates, employees and scientists of the University of Cologne who are interested in founding a company with the tools they need to start their own innovative business idea.

<https://www.linkedin.com/company/gatewayesc/about/>