

Introduction to the Global Spark program

Swissnex is organising the Global Spark program at ZHAW. This series of 5 online meetings in April-May 2025 will introduce you to stories of innovation and growth from three dynamic nations—India, Brazil, and China. These countries are envisioning and shaping the future of the world, economically, technologically and demographically. It is crucial to understand how the future is being imagined and built in these places, which often looks very different from what is being imagined in Europe or North America.

Registration and programme details:

<https://www.zhaw.ch/en/about-us/international/global-spark>

Zurich University
of Applied Sciences



Deepali Sinha Khetriwal
Co-founder
E[co]work

India



Deepali is a co-founder of E[co]work, an award-winning social enterprise setting up a first-of-its-kind e-waste dismantling co-working space. She has over 20 years of work experience and until recently, she was the Managing Director of a boutique sustainability consultancy. She is an established international expert on e-waste management, having worked on a range of projects at the intersection of environmental and social impact, particularly in the domain of secondary resources. She has worked at the United Nations University, where she was instrumental in setting up the capacity development activities of the StEP Initiative, a UN-supported forum on the e-waste problem. She has also authored several research reports for the European Commission and has published several papers in peer-reviewed journals on the topic of e-waste.

Currently based in Mumbai, she holds a PhD from the University of St. Gallen, Switzerland, where her thesis was on modelling for forecasting waste flows of end-of-life consumer durables.

**Building
an Inclusive
Circular
Economy**

Haiwei Wang **Vice President** **Corporate Development** **of Pinduoduo**

Haiwei WANG joined Pinduoduo in 2015 and currently serves as Vice President of Corporate Development of Pinduoduo.



China

**Digital Trans-
formation for
sustainability
and livelihoods**

Nicole Gobeth

Ligue os Pontos

Graduated in Forestry Engineering in 2001, Nicole Gobeth has built a career dedicated to integrating agriculture, forestry, and sustainability. With over two decades of experience, she manages projects that harmonize agricultural production, environmental conservation, and the implementation of food systems. She has led multidisciplinary initiatives in collaboration with rural producers, NGOs, and government agencies, always focusing on sustainable production. She has worked in Imaflora (Institute of Forestry and Agricultural Management), also as a project manager for women in the coffee supply chain at the Solidaridad Latin America Foundation, and at the Ligue os Pontos Project (Connect the Dots), where she served as implementation manager for the Bloomberg Philanthropies in partnership with the São Paulo City Hall. Since 2022, she has been part of the Executive Secretariat of the MapBiomass Institute, which she helped establish in 2022, and where she actively coordinates the Institute's administrative team.

Brazil

**Bioeconomy
As the Path to
the Future**

