

URL: <https://stvp.stanford.edu/blog/videos/definition-of-entrepreneurship>

Kavita Ramdas, President and CEO of the Global Fund for Women, defines entrepreneurship by looking to the roots of the French language. She found two words: "entre" and "prendre" that suggest the act of immersion into something that also takes hold of you.



Transcript

I want to take a little bit of time in the half an hour that I have been given and I hope, we have plenty of time for questions, to talk a little bit about what I understand when I hear the word entrepreneur.. I have a great fondness for dictionaries and languages in general, so I like the fact that at the time when it seems to be a bad thing to say anything about the French, we're actually using a word that has no literal translation in English.. It's a French word.. It is from two different words entre and prendre; "to be in" which is entre and prendre which is "to take".. So it's not just to undertake, it's really to immerse yourself in something that also takes hold of you.. So there is a sense of kind of deep immersion into the process that I think, anybody who is an entrepreneur just instinctively understands whether or not they speak French...