

A combined experience of nearly 20 years in Innovation, Incubation, Startup mentoring, Corporates and Life Sciences Research. Currently she is heading as the CEO at Centre for Innovation and Incubation(CII) Utkal University-which is supported by RUSA 2.0 (Ministry of Education, Govt of India).She has extensive knowledge of the startup eco-system by virtue of her experience as the Head of the Startup Eco-system Development Initiative of ISBA [Indian STEPs & Business Incubators Association] at New Delhi. In her corporate role, she was a member of India's founding team of a US based Corporate and served as the Head of Botanicals and Nutraceuticals procurement and quality assurance. Dr Manisha has overseen the entire cycles of startup incubatee selection till graduation out of the incubator. She has experience of working on TBI sustainability including project funding for incubators as also seed fund support to startups. She has served in the board of 2 startups and in the advisory board of a couple of more. She is also in Advisory board of several Incubators across India. She is well networked within the startup eco-system including Government agencies, Angels, VCs, Mentors and Incubators, as well as global networks like AABI, INBIA, IC2 Texas Austin, and Incubators at Taiwan, US, UK, Europe etc. She has also got exposure to Intellectual Property Rights Laws and Technology Transfer. Dr Manisha has in-depth understanding of Incubation & Innovation management Eco-System, Start- Up Eco-system, Business Incubation, Startup dynamics, Technology Commercialization and Entrepreneurial challenges. Ability to work with Entrepreneurs, Scientists, Educationists and diverse Clients.

She is nominated to the Expert Advisory Committee on Innovation – Science & Technology Entrepreneurship Development Program [i-STED] of Ministry of Science & Technology, Govt of India. She was awarded the prestigious British Chevening Fellowship in Science, Research and Innovation [CRISP] at University of Oxford, awarded by British Foreign and Commonwealth office during 2019. She was nominated by Govt of India as a member of a delegation to visit, study and network with the Startup Eco-system at Silicon Valley in 2018. Prior to that, she was nominated by Asia Productivity Organization (APO) to participate in a training and cross-learning program for Technology Incubation Managers at Taiwan during 2014.She is a recognized Mentor by the “Mentor on Road” – Startup India and a certified Master Trainer by ‘Innompics”. During 2018, awarded the Best CEO under the Incubator category by ICFA (Indian Council of Food & Agriculture). She was also an invited speaker in various national and international events.Recently she got an award of “Miss Innovation Award” in 5th World Innompics Games 2021 online”