

Ritu Verma is the co-founder and Managing Partner at Ankur Capital – an impact investment fund that invests in innovations for the next billion. She sits on the board/board observer positions at multiple of Ankur's portfolio – Cropin, Agricx, Niramai and Healthsutra.

Prior to starting Ankur Capital, Ritu ran Truven an advisory firm for venture funds looking at investments in India and SE Asia. One of the funds she worked with was BASF corporate venture fund, which focused on investments in renewable energy, agri-biotech and materials. She is passionate about bringing innovation from lab to the market and did that for over a decade across different roles at Philips and Unilever across the globe.

She holds an MBA from INSEAD and a Ph.D. in physics from the University of Pennsylvania and has bachelors from Middlebury College, Vermont.

Ritu is also part of the steering committee and director at ThinkAg an agri-sector platform for scaling innovations in India. She is also a member of the IMC agri and food processing committee and is part of the advocacy council for Impact Investors Council in India.

Ankur Capital

Ankur Capital is an early stage venture capital fund that invests in opportunities created by rising aspirations and digital access for the next billion Indians. It invests in technologies, innovations and businesses in agriculture, healthcare, education/skills, fintech and other areas. The fund is focused on those opportunities that have a potential to create large scale impact for low-income communities.

The fund is currently invested in 11 companies across health and agriculture primarily. So far the cumulative impact created by the fund has impacted over 5 million people. The fund focuses on a capital plus model and has its own in-house team of functional experts to support investees in critical areas.

Investments in agriculture span across companies that use digital penetration to drive efficiencies in agriculture, new technology products that impact yield and supply chains, as well as companies that create markets for produce from small holder farmers. In health the fund looks at creating access in under-resourced settings either through direct services or technology that allows a service to be brought to the last mile.