

Madan Padaki

Co-founder & CEO, RubanBridge

Co-founder & Trustee Head Held High Foundation

Co-founder & Director, Sylvant Advisors

Convener, Million Jobs Mission, Social Venture Partners



An engineer from NIE Mysore and an MBA from SPJIMR, Mumbai, Madan Padaki had worked with Wipro, Infosys and Mphasis (Japan) – before being bitten by the entrepreneurial bug in 2000 when he co-founded MeritTrac as a pioneering idea in skills assessments. MeritTrac is today one of the leading Skills Assessment companies in the World and is recognized as a thought-leader in the sector, having won several awards like the NASSCOM Innovation Award & Deloitte Fast 50 India Award. MeritTrac has also been featured extensively in several books on entrepreneurship and is also a case-study at INSEAD. MeritTrac was acquired by Manipal Global Education Services, one of India's largest education services company. In 2011, he transitioned to Manipal Education from MeritTrac to head up Strategy, Innovation and International Partnerships and transitioned out in March 2013.

He is currently the Co-founder & CEO of RubanBridge Private Limited, a rural last-mile services platform provides access, choice & convenience to rural consumers by leveraging the power of local entrepreneurs & technology. Today, 1Bridge as a brand under RubanBridge is present in 25+ districts across South India and has over 400+ rural youth engaged on its platform.

Madan is also the co-founder & Trustee of Head Held High Foundation, a non-profit that stands for human dignity. Head Held High Foundation's vision is a world of abundance, in which poverty has no place. HHH focuses on initiatives for poverty eradication like *Make India Capable*, where a rural youth with no schooling, in 6 months is transported to being extraordinary capable as a person, and work-ready in a professional environment and *Global Action on Poverty (GAP)* a platform that builds and supports Changemaking communities to eradicate poverty.

Partnering with other Education leaders, Madan is also a co-founder & Director of Sylvant– a pioneering initiative to create a robust scaffolding for education entrepreneurs to succeed. Sylvant invests and supports early-stage education entrepreneurs and has a current portfolio of 18 ed-tech companies.

He is also a founding Partner of Social Venture Partners, Bangalore and is the Convener of the Million Jobs Mission – an initiative to help leading livelihoods organisations achieve scale through a support network.

He is also an active member of the Governing Council of TiE Bangalore and had served as a Senior Advisor to Tata Trusts between 2015-2016.