

Long Profile

Prof Dr Peer Ederer

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Prof Dr Ederer is a scientist and an entrepreneur. As scientist, he researches, publishes and teaches on the links between human capital formation, learning, economic growth and innovation. His analyses are frequently consulted by business leaders and policy makers for their innovation and growth strategies. He is particularly active in the food and agribusiness sector. As entrepreneur in his company africa enablers, his commercial focus is on creating sustainable and cost effective infrastructure solutions for countries across the African continent.

In science, Prof Ederer has demonstrated effective strategies for human capital, economic growth and innovation with business case studies and empirical analyses for individuals, companies and regions. He is the Program and Science Director for the Global Food and Agribusiness Network, which is supported by the China Europe International Business School (CEIBS). The network conducts events several times per year around the world (more at foodandagribusiness.org). At Zeppelin University he has conducted research projects and executive teaching assignments on innovation and growth since 2004. From 2012 to 2016 he was Project Director of the EU-funded LLLight'in'Europe research project, leading a consortium of eight globally leading research universities on Lifelong Learning, Innovation, Growth and Human Capital Tracks (more at lllightineurope.com). This project followed four widely disseminated policy briefs on human capital and university systems for the Brussels-based think tank Lisbon Council, while he was Director for its Human Capital Centre there between 2004 and 2011. From 2005 to 2014 he was Scientific Director for the European Food and Agribusiness Seminar at Wageningen University and Research.

In 1995, Prof Ederer co-wrote his first best-selling business book *Das Erbe der Egoisten*, a socioeconomic comparison of Germany, Japan and USA. In 1999, he co-wrote his second bestseller, *Geschäftsbericht Deutschland AG*, an analytical description of the German state as if it were a stock market quoted company; this was succeeded by the path-breaking *Geschäftsplan Deutschland* in 2008, analyzing the need to increase investment in human capital in the German economy. For a complete overview of his more than 400 publications and presentations, see innovationgrowth.com/publications.

Prof Ederer has conducted business in Africa since 2005. With his business partnership of Africa Enablers he maintains an extensive network of business associates in Africa, maintains an office in Addis Ababa, and is a frequent business traveller to the continent. Africa Enablers business is built on his more than 20 years of experience in financing and managing technology-rich projects around the world. He started his career as a financial trader at Deutsche Bank in Japan in 1989, where he developed arbitrages for interest-rate derivatives and money-market instruments. Later on he worked for five years in the German office of McKinsey & Company, specializing in technology management, innovation and the energy industry. His company Innovation&Growth Academy has a distinguished track record for business innovation and growth projects (more at africaenablers.com).

Prof Ederer studied business administration at Sophia University in Tokyo and at Harvard Business School in Boston. He completed his PhD at the University of Witten Herdecke in Germany, on the subject of the financial relationship between the state and its citizens.