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Dr. Tilman Altenburg, born 1959, is an economic geographer and head of the research programme “Transformation of Economic and Social Systems” at the German Development Institute (DIE), the German think tank for development policy issues. Since 1986, Dr Altenburg has done empirical research in several developing countries including Mexico, Costa Rica, Panama, Honduras, India, Thailand, Malaysia, Vietnam and Ethiopia. He has published various articles and books on competitiveness, knowledge-based development, innovation systems, industrial policy, clusters and value chains, entrepreneurship development, and public-private partnerships.