

Insights on the efficiency of Embodied Knowledge Transfer: results from a localized initiative

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ABSTRACT: embodied knowledge transfer is a relevant way of connecting public research and firms. The present work analyzes the results of a public initiative aiming at connecting research institutions and Small and Medium Enterprises of the Piedmont Region (northwest Italy). The initiative financed grants to employ young persons in possess of a university degree. Grantees were employed to spend part of their working time in a SME, and part in the collaborating Department/Institute. Drawing on the responses to the final survey of the project, the present work tries to determine whether grantees have been an efficient medium of knowledge transfer. Results show that in many cases they have been determinant, though the result can't be generalized.

Keywords: embodied knowledge transfer; university-industry cooperation; public policy; regional development; SME.

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