

show that 33 of them (more or less the half) deal with “Real estate, informatics, research”. This suggests the presence of a strong bias towards informatics and electronics. 35 projects out of 65 did entail the presence of a grantee holding an Engineering degree.

The core dataset for the present work is based on a set of specific questions inserted for this purpose in the final evaluation survey thanks to the collaboration of FRAME laboratory. The survey was directed to all the actors involved in the projects: firms, departments, grantees. The main focus for this work has been the survey for participating firms (the person in charge of the answers was the technical responsible of the project or the owner). The firms answering to the survey have been 57. A first set of specific questions aimed at investigating the firms in terms of its previous innovation activities. The questions are:

- Does the firm have a reference person for R&D and innovation?
- Which fraction of the firm’s turnover is devoted to R&D and innovation?
- Is the firm part of any firms’ network aiming at innovation?
- Has the firm received in the last 5 years any financing for research, development and innovation?

Tables 5 to 8 present the answers to the four questions. It is easily seen that most firms have an internal R&D reference person and devote a high fraction of turnover (more than 5 %) to R&D.

More than half of the answering firms did receive external financing (e.g. participation to competitive projects). These facts contribute to the above expressed hypothesis that many of the firms are spinoffs from research.

Table 5 – Does the firm have a reference person for R&D and innovation?

| Answer | Number of firms |
|--------|-----------------|
| No | 16 |
| Yes | 41 |

Table 6 – Which fraction of the turnover is devoted to R&D and innovation?

| % of turnover in R&D | Number of firms |
|----------------------|-----------------|
| Less than 1 % | 2 |
| Between 1 and 2 % | 1 |
| Between 2 and 5 % | 10 |
| More than 5 % | 39 |
| Do not know | 5 |