



SMEINNOBOOST

MAIN FINDINGS OF THE SME INNOVATION SURVEY





SURVEY ON SITE

INSTAT and RDA conducted the survey on SME Innovation in the framework of Interreg programme Balkan Mediterranean 2014 - 2020“.

The objective of this project is to increase the international capacities of SMEs and support them in establishing a sustainable network by involving other innovative groups of SME from the countries of the region to exchange knowledge and develop innovation.



CONDUCTING THE SURVEY

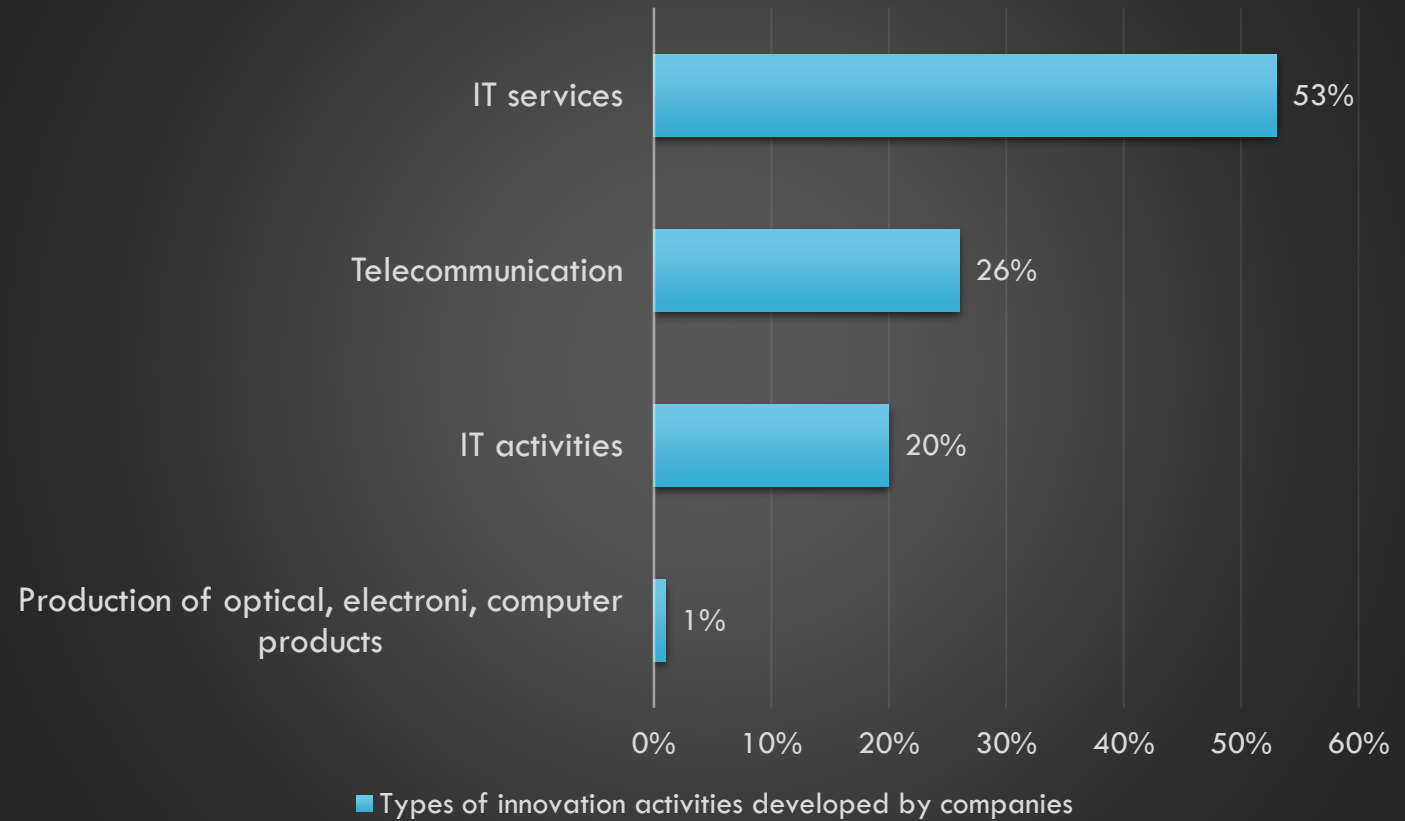
1. The object of the survey were companies that operate their activities for three years period: in 2018 is provided information on innovative activity for 2016, 2017, 2018.
2. **Coverage:** There were involved the private companies based on their activity respectively: 26 SMEs producing optical, electronic, computer products; 61 telecommunication SMEs; 62 IT SMEs; 63 SMEs operating in information services with 0 to 249 employees; they are spread in the entire Albanian territory.
3. **Collecting information:** direct interviews were conducted with all selected companies. Interviews on site were conducted in December 2018 for a 2 weeks period.

MAIN FINDINGS

47% of companies resulted to be innovative during the three-year period 2016 - 2018.

Companies providing IT services (62 SMEs) are the most active innovators.

Most active innovative companies



MAIN FINDINGS

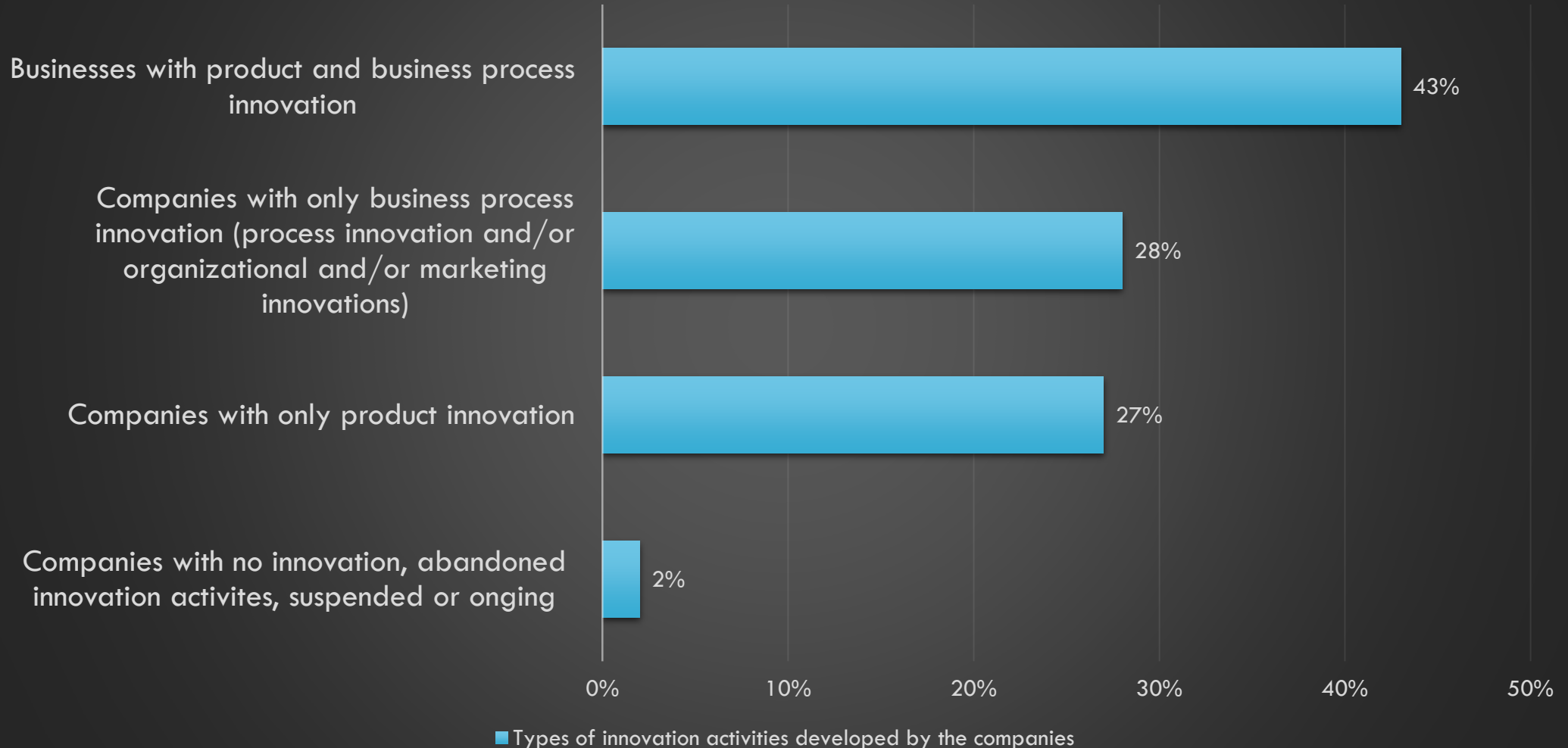
SME innovation activities results to be in inverse variation with their size.

Percentage of companies with **0 to 9 employees involved in innovation activities was 95,6 %**, for companies with 10 to 49 employees was 4% and companies with 50 to 249 employees was 0,4 %.

For the three year period 2016-2018, 43% of companies with 0 to 249 employees resulted to be innovative in products or processes, whereas 2% of them were companies without innovation, with abandoned innovation activities, suspended or ongoing during 2018.

MAIN FINDINGS

Types of innovation activities developed by the companies



MAIN FINDINGS

On average, 9% of responding companies implementing innovative activities for 2016-2018 were part of companies' groups and 40% of them had headquarters abroad.

More than 87% of innovation companies sell their products (goods and services) in the national market.

In estimating those companies that sell their products in the international market, 19% of them sell in the regional markets (Balkans – Mediterranean), Bulgaria, Cyprus, North Macedonia and Greece.

MAIN FINDINGS

Cooperation in innovation was a modest one, where the **majority of companies do not cooperate** with other companies, institutions or universities in implementing innovation activities.

The results of the survey show that only 20% of innovative companies have cooperated in 2016-2018.

Cooperation with public or research and scientific institutions, universities or high education institutions, customers or consumers from the public sector were estimated to be more frequent kind of cooperation. As far as cooperating partners are concerned, cooperation with national partners is estimated 89%, being the first in ranking.

MAIN FINDINGS

From the survey, 6% of companies which reported to have developed innovation activities have been **granted public funds** during 2016- 2018.

The most regular financing institution is the European Union with 85%, mainly coming from the Research and Innovation Programme “Horizon 2020”

Whereas, 71% of the companies with innovation activities were provided with financing from the local or regional authorities.

MAIN FINDINGS

High innovation costs resulted to be the most critical factor in interfering with the innovation activities.

- ✓ 73,5 % of the companies reported that the high innovation costs are especially critical in interfering with the innovation activities.
- ✓ Another critical factor in interfering with the innovation activities is the high competition in market.

PROCESS

SME's

+

SAT



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THANK YOU!