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## **Characteristics of Innovative SMEs, that are subordinate to the National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine**

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In the last decades Ukraine had witnessed little progress in innovation development albeit the declared intentions of the authorities of the country to build a knowledge economy. Experts and scholars share the opinion that the country is stronger in higher education and science compared to innovation in enterprises. Only 20.4% of enterprises reported technological and/organizational innovations in 2010-2012 [1]. The number of innovative enterprises could be increased by spin-offs from research institutes or universities.

Considering the great scientific potential of the National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine (NASU): 111 research institutes, 19292 researchers, including 2610 Doctors of Sciences and 8007 Candidates of Sciences in 2013, a significant contribution to innovation could be expected of the enterprises subordinate to the academy [2]. NASU enterprises are state-owned entities but receive no funding from the state budget or any other support from the government. In many cases SMEs lack cooperation with their “mother” research institutes, which has an adverse effect both on business and research. Government support is necessary to place innovative enterprises in a position where they can fulfil the role they have been assigned with in innovation system.

[1] Ukrstat (2013). Available at <http://www.ukrstat.gov.ua/>

[2] National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine. Annual Report (2014). Available at <http://www.nas.gov.ua/text/report/2013ukr.pdf>