



REPUBLIC OF ESTONIA
MINISTRY OF SOCIAL AFFAIRS



Family support instruments implemented in Estonia

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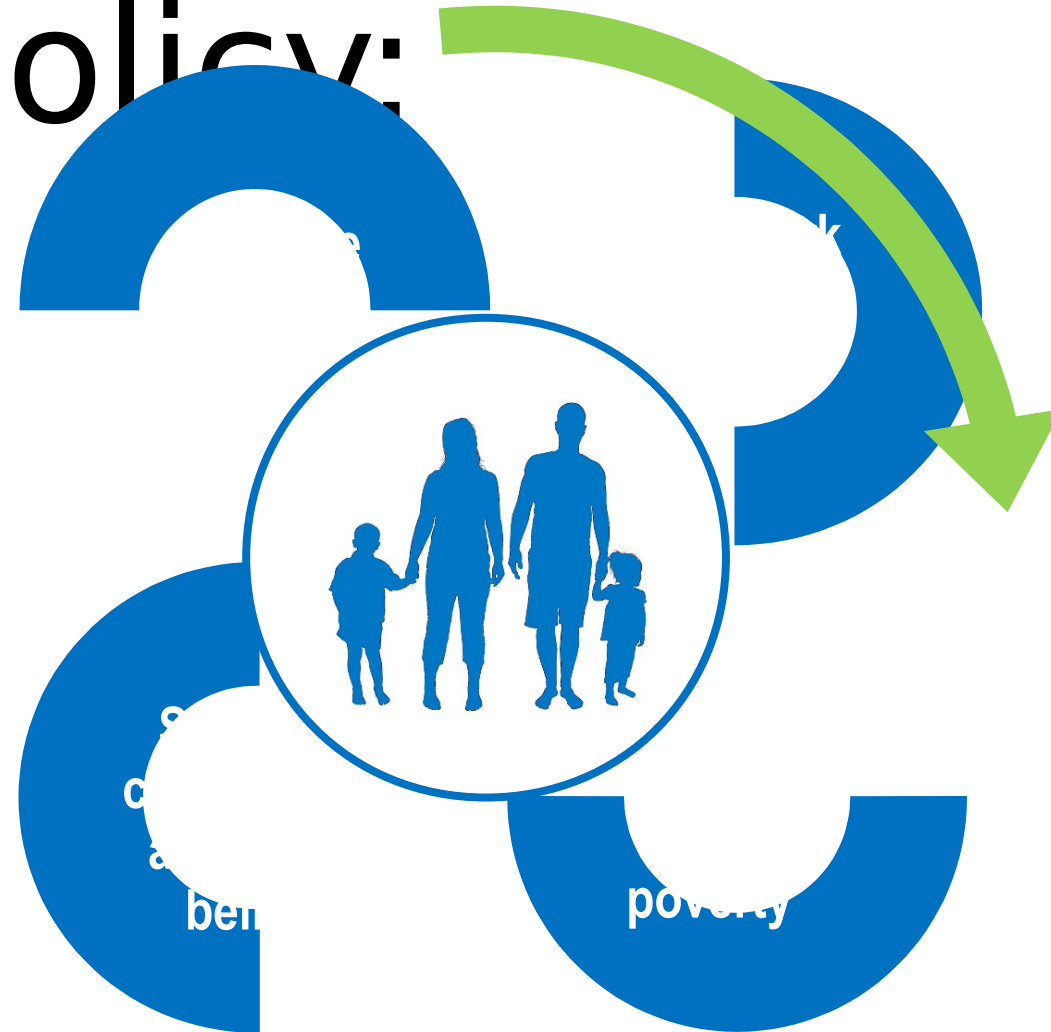
A group of about ten people, seen from behind, are walking along a dirt path in a forest. They are wearing various outdoor clothing like jackets and backpacks. In the foreground, there is a calm lake reflecting the scene. The background shows a dense forest of evergreen trees under a blue sky with scattered white clouds. The overall atmosphere is peaceful and scenic.

There are 1,3 million people in Estonia:

- 19% of under-age (0-17)
- 61% of working-age(18-64)
- 20% in the age of retirement (65 and older)

Total fertility rate 1,59

The aims of Estonian family policy:



Number of children in Estonian families (2010-2017)

Priority: decreasing child poverty

- Grant for local governments in order to organize youth hobby education and activities
- Improving the conditions for means-tested benefits
- Increasing the family benefits



Grant for local governments in order

to organize youth hobby education and activities

- Local governments have a possibility to apply for youth hobby education and activities grant.

- The provision of the grant is managed by Estonian Youth Work Centre.
- September 2017-December 2017 grant in total 6 million euros.
- In 2018 grant total 14,3 million euros.

Subsistence benefit

The objective of subsistence benefit is to alleviate material deprivation of persons and families in need of assistance as a temporary measure supporting the ability of persons to cope independently by providing minimum funds to satisfy the primary needs.

- The overall subsistence level was raised from 130 to 140 euros per month.

Family benefits

❑ Universal family benefits with focus on large families:

😊: 55€

😊😊: 55+55€=110€

😊😊😊: 55+55+100+300= 510€

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😊😊😊😊😊😊😊: 55+55+100+100+100+100+100+400= 1010€

❑ Multistage system: family benefits increase with number of children (5047) = 1000€

Absolute poverty rate, %

Priority: work and family life reconciliation

Changing the parental leave and benefits system in order to:

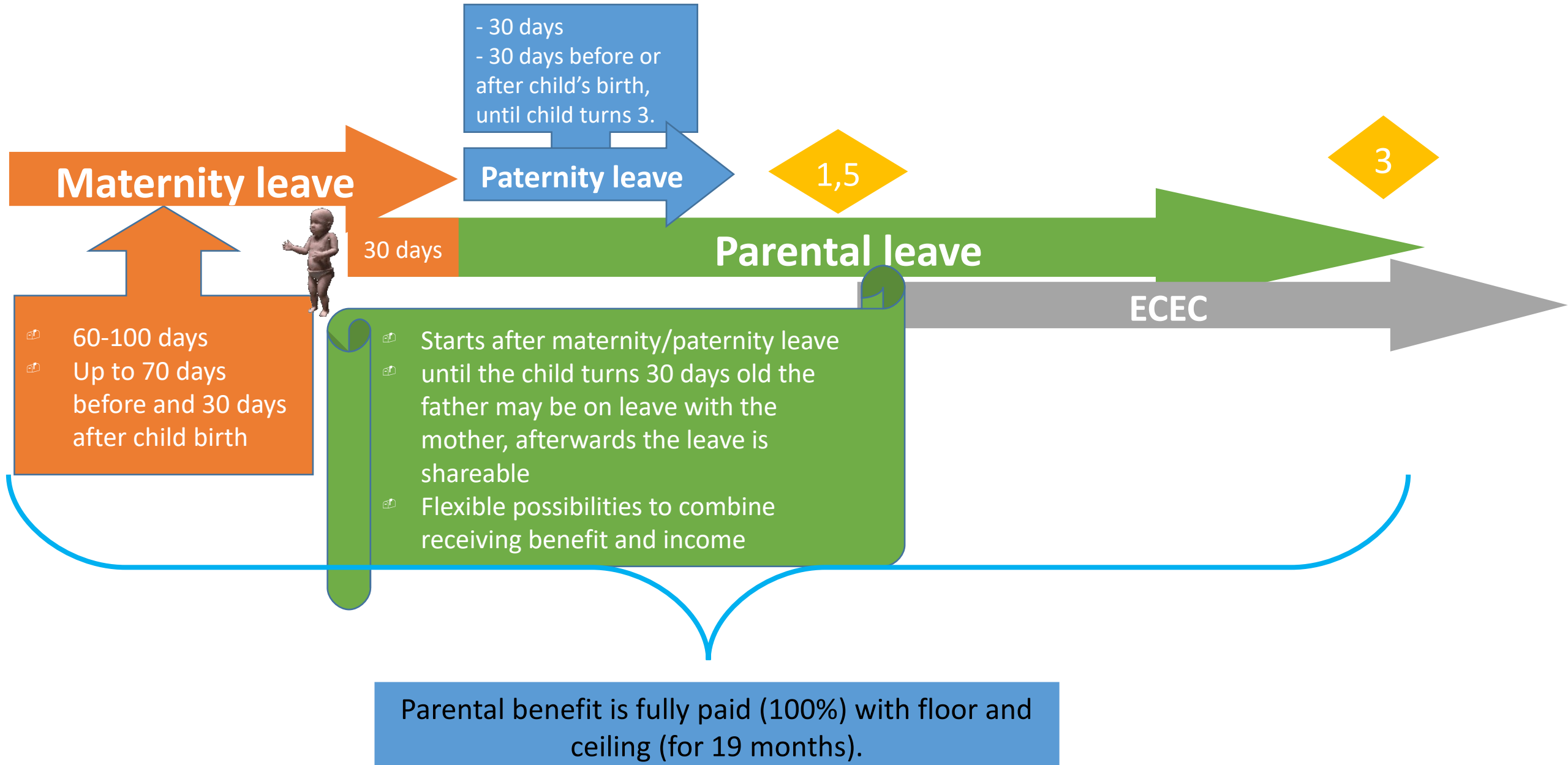
- encourage more fathers to share care responsibilities with the mothers;
- provide more flexible possibilities for families to combine taking care of the child and participating in the labour market;
- support parents in participating in the labour market.

Paternity leave:

- the eligibility will be expanded – all fathers will have the right
- will be prolonged from 10 working days to 30 days
- can be used separately or together with mother



Parental leave and benefit system in the future



Work-life balance now and in the future

- Receiving the parental benefit and income on the same time. The reduction only follows when the monthly income exceeds 1,5 x average salary (approx. 1544€ in 2018);
- parents may stop and re-start receiving the benefit daily until the child turns 3 years old. (i.e. enables both parents to work part time and to share the care responsibility);
- 60 days of the benefit can be shared by parents and used together. When using this option, the overall period will be reduced proportionally by the days used together.

Thank you!
Liels paldies!



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