

Socially Innovative Finland - Spotlight on the basic income experiment and the Finnish maternity package

In 2017, Finland will celebrate its centenary and Kela, the Finnish Social Insurance Institution, its 80th anniversary. The social security system, which Kela administers, is an important part of Finnish society and its development. Finnish social security is best known internationally for the unique Finnish maternity package. A new social innovation currently attracting international attention is the two-year basic income experiment, which was launched quite recently.

We now have the pleasure to invite members of the media, the research community and anyone else interested to an event titled Socially Innovative Finland - Spotlight on the basic income experiment and the Finnish maternity package, which will be held on 12 January 2017.

Launched at the beginning of 2017, the experiment testing an unconditional basic income has sparked interest around the world. The experiment is being conducted among 2,000 persons between ages 25 and 58, who will receive a monthly basic income of €560 for two years. It is a unique social innovation with the goal of reducing bureaucracy, alleviating poverty and increasing employment.

Participants at the event will also have the opportunity to get to know the Finnish maternity package. Originally introduced 80 years ago, it is an innovation that has spread far beyond Finnish borders.

Among the speakers at the event are **Olli Kangas**, Director of Government and Community Relations, **Marjukka Turunen**, Head of the Legal Affairs Unit, and Communications Specialist **Olga Tarsalainen**.

The event will be held in English at Kela's auditorium in Helsinki.

Attendance is limited to the first 80 people to register, but a live online stream will be available as well.

Please join us!

Date and Time:

Thursday, 12 January 2017, 9:00-10:30 Finnish time (UTC/GMT +2 hours).

Location:

Auditorium in Kela's head office
at Nordenskiöldinkatu 12, Helsinki.
A live online stream will be available
at <http://videonet.fi/web/kela/20170112/>

Programme:

- Olli Kangas, Director of Government and Community Relations
Basic income - Part of tomorrow's social security?
- Marjukka Turunen, Head of Legal Affairs Unit
How the basic income experiment works in practice
- Olga Tarsalainen, Communications Specialist
Finnish Maternity package - The best known brand of Finnish social security

The speakers will be available for interviews starting at 10:30 hours.

Registration:

Please register by Wednesday, 11 January 2017:
<https://www.lyyti.in/basicincome>. Indicate on the registration form whether you intend to attend the event personally or watch the online stream.

A recording of the event will be posted online for later viewing. The presentation materials will be published after the event at www.kela.fi.

Submit questions:

During the stream, you have the opportunity to submit questions and comments on Twitter at #basicincome2017 / #maternitypackage2017. You can also submit your questions beforehand. Email your questions to eeva-kaisa.kivisto@kela.fi

Additional information:

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