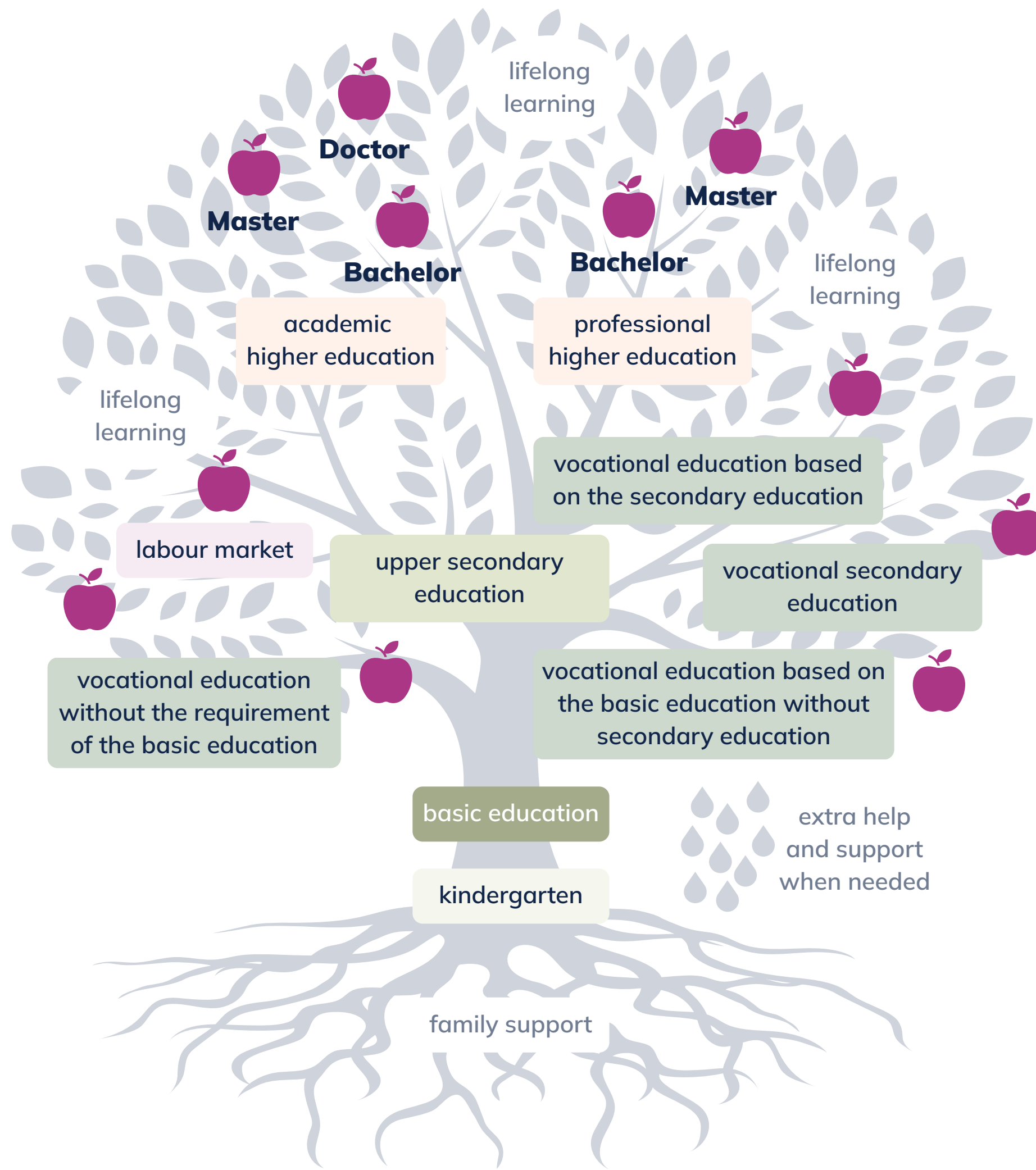


Estonian Experience in Legislating and Implementing Microcredentials

Trine Tamm
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Comprehensive school system

83%

of private sector is
micro-enterprises

Universities

have
significant
market share
in CE sector

45%

of the
courses
are
short
(up to
8h)

1300+

Institutions
providing continuing
education registered
in Estonian
Education
Information System

**Continuing education
market in Estonia**

Adult Education Act

1993 → 2015 → 2025



1993

2015

2020

2021

2025



Establishment

- 1st Adult Education Act (AEA) established in Estonia



Renewal

- New AEA clarified continuing education regulations



Testing market

- Universities introduced the concept of micro-degrees in continuing education



Shifting mindset

- Study on implementing micro-credentials
- Stakeholder discussions, insight
- Draft amendment to AEA prepared



Establishing micro-credentials legally

- April 1st renewed AEA entered into force
- September 1st micro-credentials entered into force

Estonian legal background for micro-credentials



Adult Education Act (TäKS)

- Micro-credential means the set of acquired, certified and recognised knowledge and skills in continuing education that corresponds to the needs of the labour market or the society, credit size is 5-30 ECTs (1 ECT = 26 learning hours)
 - Institutions of professional higher education and universities may name micro-credential a micro-degree if the subjects of the level of HE make at least one-half of the volume of micro-degree curriculum.
- Sets the necessary requirements for conducting micro-credential studies including the necessity of passing quality assessment in specific curriculum group

The Standard of Continuing Education

- Sets the necessary requirements for curricula and documentations

Conditions and procedures for curriculum group-based quality assessment of CE institution

- Sets the premise of what needs to be assessed during the quality assessment
- Sets that the assessment is conducted by the Estonian Quality Agency for Education (HAKA), an independent body within the Education and Youth Board.

“Quality assessment is like a car’s technical inspection – it’s not just a box-ticking exercise, but ensures that the vehicle is safe, functional and able to reach its destination.

If we want to offer micro-credentials, we need to be confident that our ‘teaching machinery’ is in good working order and that our systems are running smoothly – and the assessment is that checkpoint.”

ChatGPT



Thank you

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