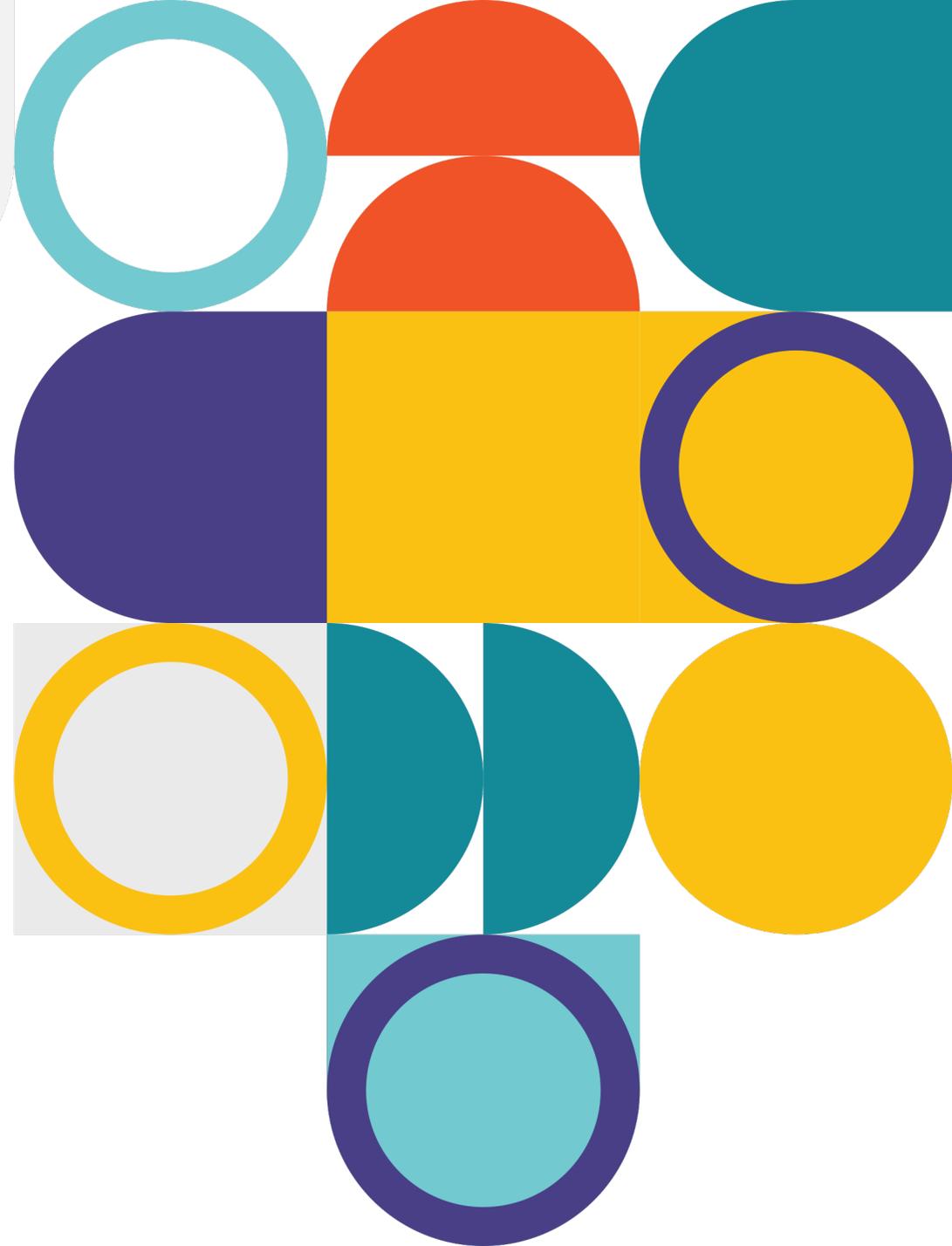


**eminc** Engaging Men  
in Nurturing Care

## **EMiNC in Italy**

*Annina Lubbock/CSB*

**May 16 - 2024**





**Founded in 1999**

*20+ years' record of field engagement in ECD family-centered programs (over 80.000 families/year)*

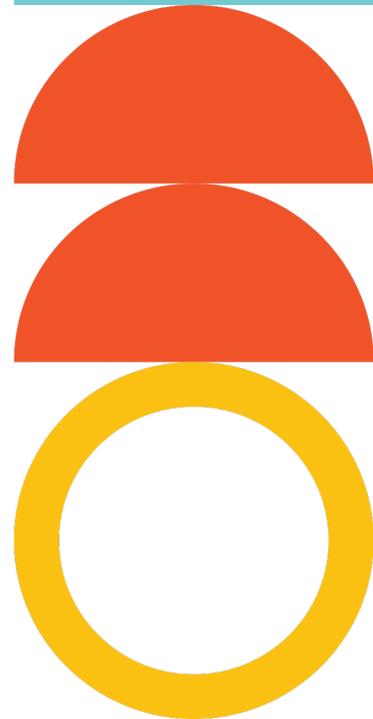
## **Mission**

*To ensure best opportunities for development for all children in their first years of life*

## **Main Areas of work:**

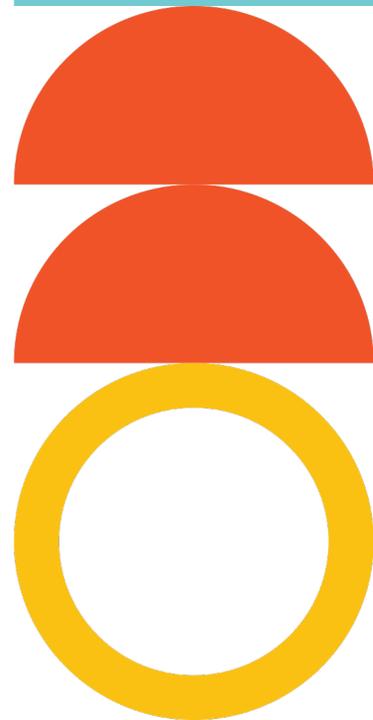
- **Research and Development** of intervention models
- **Training of professionals** (health, education, social and cultural sectors – more than 100 courses per year)
- **Implementation, scaling-up and evaluation** of country-wide and international ECD programs (partnering also with WHO, UNICEF and international NGOs)
- **Advocacy** for child and family-centered policies

**eminc**



# Why EMINC matters in Italy - the cultural context (stereotypes and norms)

- **Familistic and women/mother-centered** welfare system
- **parent/caregiver-unfriendly work culture:** long hours, low flexibility, gender stereotypes and lack of company-level policies for WLB
- **The role of fathers is changing, but normative models of motherhood and masculinity persist** (breadwinning+virility) with notable **geographic and socio-cultural differences**



# Why EMiNC matters in Italy - the structural context

High **gender employment gap**\*:

EU **9,8%** Italy **18,1%** Campania (Naples) **26%**

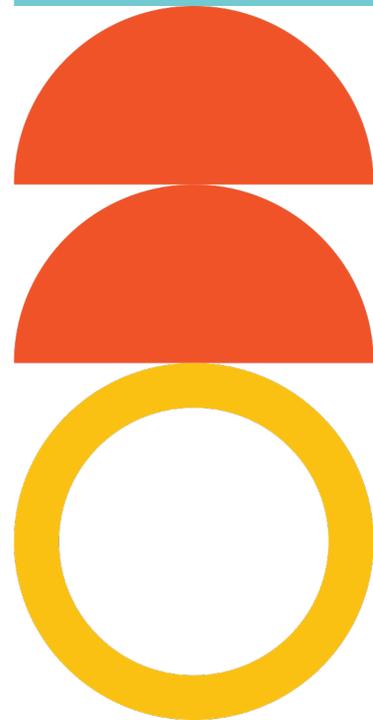
➤ gender employment gap increases **after birth of first child**

➤ **Part-time and irregular contracts** widespread among women

Inadequate **provision of nurseries (age 0-3)**

EU target **45%** Italy **27,2%** Naples **14%**

Eurostat 2022\*

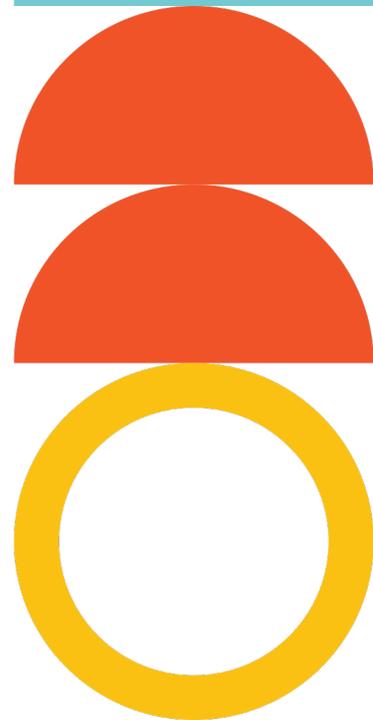


## Why EMiNC matters in Italy - the structural context: leave policies and uptake

Most generous **maternity leave** in the EU: Italy,  
**5 months paid 80%**

Least generous **well-paid leave for fathers**:  
Italy **2 weeks** (workers not entitled: **25%**)  
Spain: **16 weeks**    Norway **20**

**Uptake of paternity leave, Italy: 64%**  
(max **85% North**; min **23% South**)





## La partecipazione dei padri nei "primi mille giorni"

La situazione italiana nel panorama europeo

Ottobre 2023



## EMiNC activities in Italy

- Some in collaboration with 4e-Parent (national level)
- Others in **Naples** (exclusively EMiNC – funded)

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Equal  
Engaged  
Early  
Empathetic



- **Building capacity**/changing practices – professionals & facilitators of fathers' circles
- **Changing culture and norms:** evidence-building; knowledge dissemination; awareness-raising
- **Changing policy:** advocacy and lobbying

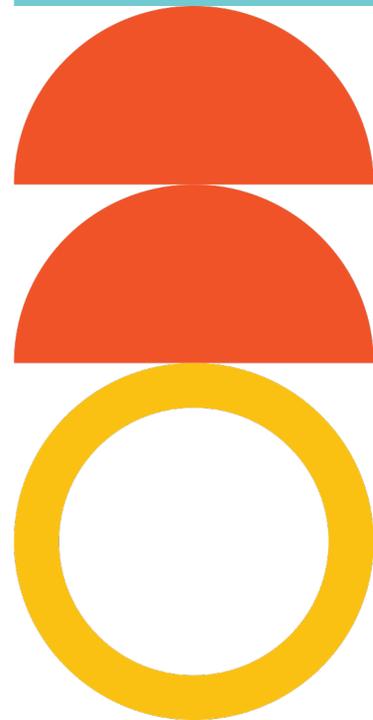
*....at national level*

# Pillars 1 and 2

- *building and disseminating **evidence** on why fathers matter in NC and*
- *advocating/lobbying for **policy change***

This includes (completed/on-going):

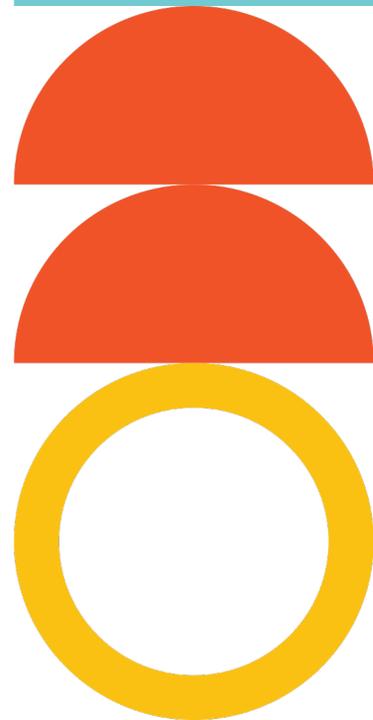
- **Report on status of fathers' engagement** in Italy (+ SoFSE)
- **Questionnaire surveys** among parents (4500) and 6 companies on leave for fathers and WLB
- **Policy briefs, lobbying for multipartisan bill of reform** on leave (on-going), **dissemination of comparative data** from the EU



## Pillar 3 – Changing practices – national level

**Distance learning courses (will run until end 2024),  
approx 10 hrs – status to-date**

- **Health professionals (accredited course):** 3300 completed; 5600 on-going
- **ECE professionals (not accredited):** 540 participants
- **Volunteers, social workers, others (non-accredited)**  
: 90



## Pillar 3 – Changing practices national/local & Naples

### Training facilitators of fathers/mixed parent's 'circles'.

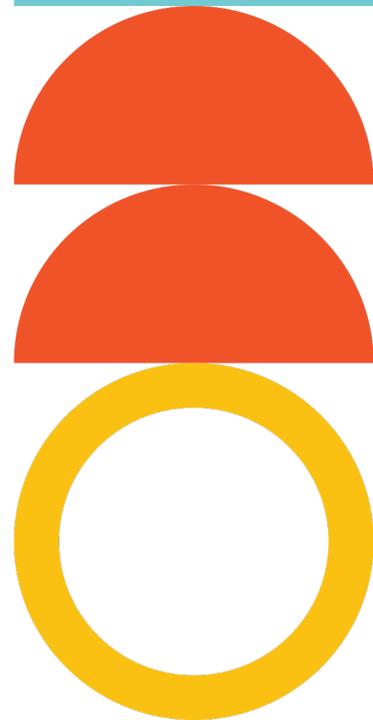
*CSB has sub-contracted CdU (Circle of Men) to run for 2,5 days, in-person, with same objectives, structure and trainers, average 25 participants each, and including **theatre-labs***

Turin (North Italy) completed (4eP)

Rome (Centre) completed (4EP)

Palermo (South), due in May (4eP)

**Naples**, due in September-October (Eminc)



## Pillar 3 – Changing practices – Naples

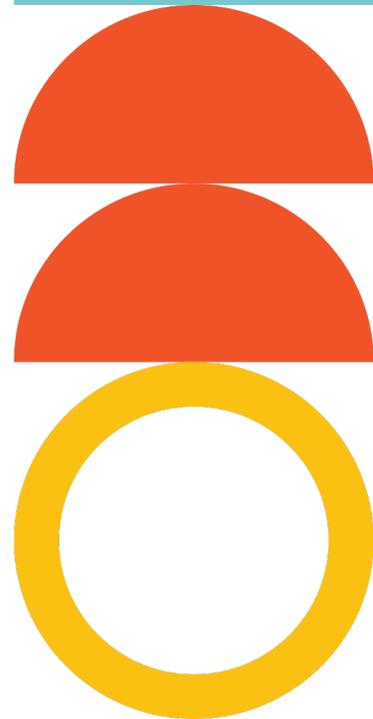
**In-service** (jointly planned **T.o.T**, and multiplication with EMINC backstopping)

➤ **ECE professionals (0-6)** – Municipality (3 half days, 25 people, 2 completed)

➤ **Health professionals** (first thousand days)– Regional Government (2 days, 25 people, from September)

### **Pre-service:**

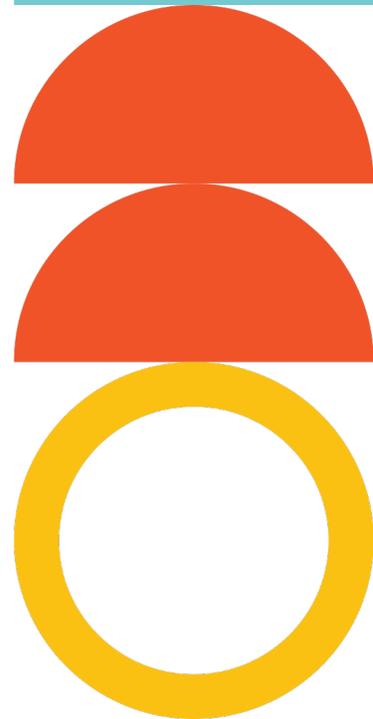
➤ 7 hr module (or 2 x 4) for students on Fathers and Nurturing Care (3 universities, starting end May)

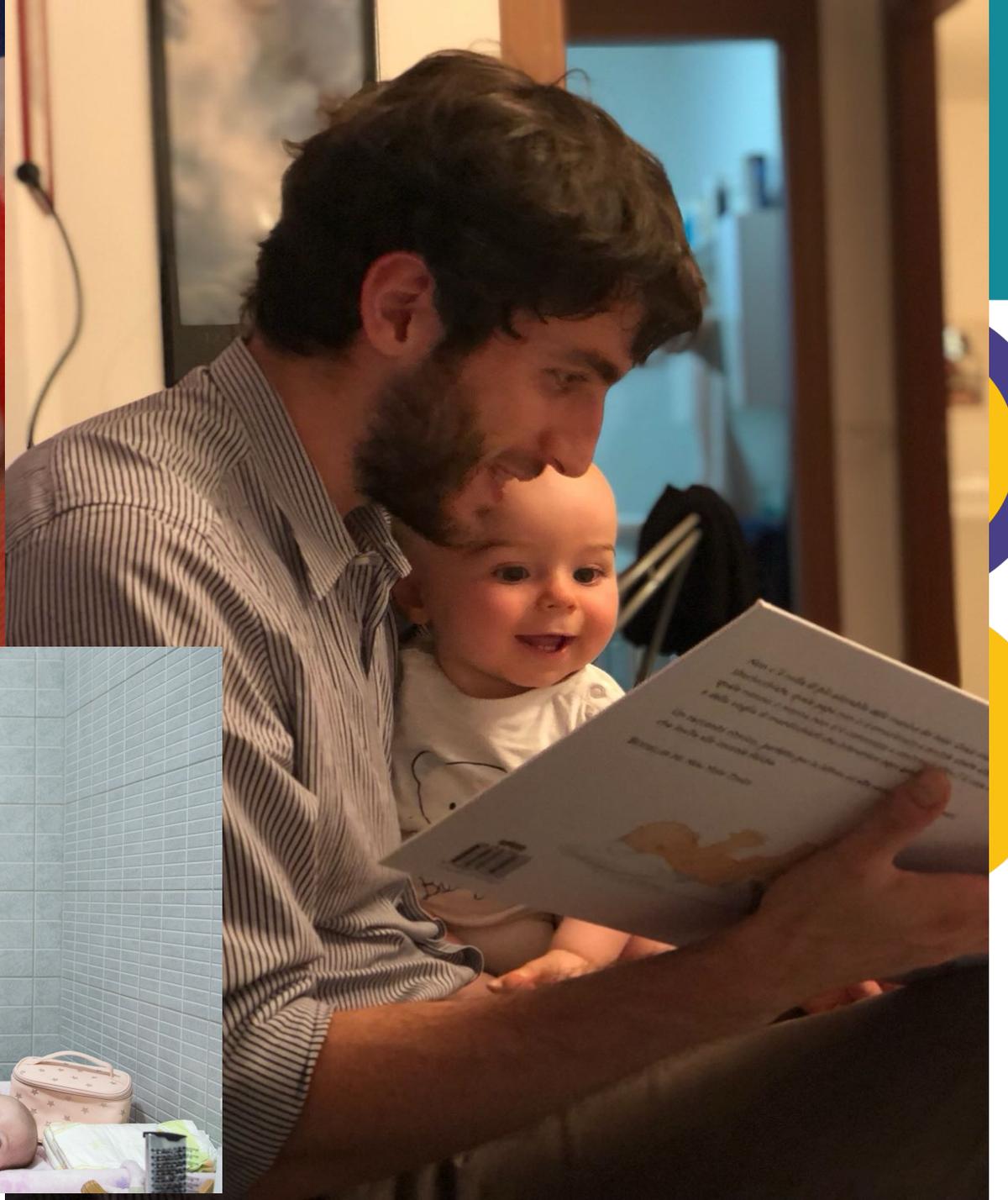


# Changing practices (Pillars 2 and 3) – communication campaign (Naples)

*Communication campaign to be launched from June onwards on fathers engagement in the First Thousand days, also to increase uptake of paternity leave*

- **general public**, campaigning on local media (newspapers, local radio and TV) – **testimonials** from fathers ('champions' and 'ordinary fathers')
- **services** (educational, social, health): production of a **booklet for professionals**
- **parents**: production of a **leaflet for parents/fathers**, to be distributed by professionals and facilitators participating in Emino training activities.





**THANKYOU!**