SUMMARY OF ILRF RESEARCH PRESENTATIONS

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THREE BROAD AREAS IMPACTING UPON EC LEADERSHIP

Context

Capability and capacity

Challenges

IMPACT OF CONTEXTUAL INFLUENCES ON LEADERSHIP

- Cultural values, understandings and practices
- National laws, regulations, and guidance
- Perceptions, expectations, engagement and actions of various actors and stakeholders
- > Type and level of professional support

DEVELOPING LEADERSHIP COMPETENCE AND CAPACITY

- Factors and strategies that nurture or hinder the development of future leaders
- The impact of different models for developing leadership capability and capacity i.e. communication, mentoring, professional support, collective responsibility, organizational culture
- The impact of various organizational structures and processes on leadership capacity

CHALLENGES FOR LEADERS IN ECE CENTRES

- Issues around professional identity i.e. pedagogical vs strategic leader
- Issues around professional autonomy vs reliance on external guidance and governance
- Coping strategies for surviving the new requirements, increasing financial constraints and increasing accountability
- Leading as a politically aware and strategic agent of professionally-responsible change

QUESTIONS REQUIRING FURTHER RESEARCH

- What are and how do identified key factors impact upon and shape the enactment of EC leadership in different contexts and cultures?
- What are the most effective models for building sustainable pedagogical and strategic leadership capability and capacity in ECECs?
- How do organizational and learning cultures, structures and processes interact with and influence leadership in ECECs?
- What are the most effective strategies for encouraging collective responsibility and genuinely distributed leadership in ECECs?