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Summary of the conclusions from the workshops in Gdansk

Workshop 1: *The draft ERB JTDP in the light of EU Territorial Cohesion policies*

- Consensus about the proposed focus areas
- The action proposals must add value to the member regions
- Right priority to make proposals that attract EU funds
- Develop texts about
 - relations EU-Russia
 - “the local dimension”
 - transport infrastructure and tourism
 - labour market cooperation; emphasis education needs.

Workshop 2: *How to develop Innovative environments and Clusters in ERB, including Local Development Centres in smaller towns?*

- Further networking and knowledge transfer
- Create “learning centres” for knowledge building
- Develop triple helix cooperation
- Develop cluster cooperation.

Workshop 3: *Tourism development – the potential to attract visitors to our region: what do we have to offer?*

- Create an ERB tourism working group
- Build networks within the tourism sector
- Develop information exchange – activity calendar on the ERB web page
- Develop a common ERB strategy for tourism development
- Develop marketing, etc.

Workshop 4: *Why local mobilization? Rural development and bottom up perspectives in EU policies*

- Build a network for benchmarking
- Develop an educational programme for training and development
- Prepare and implement a yearly rural development conference
- Propose and build up an ERB Academy for rural development
- Support local mobilization through the Leader model
- Support the development of rural tourism.

Workshop 5: *Maritime safety*

- Discussed contents/preparations for a new Interreg IIIB project about Maritime safety.

Workshop 6: *Water management – the role of ERB*

- The threat towards water from agriculture – need of education
- Create a Water Forum – an arena for information and knowledge transfer
- Strong support is needed especially to the Kaliningrad region as the ERB Hot Spot concerning water quality.

Workshop 7: *Transport infrastructure conditions prevailing in ERB – need for improvement*

- The ERB board should – based on a well documented in depth information – start a discussion on how the ERB should deal with and prioritize infrastructure issues in its long term work
- A well thought through chapter concerning transport infrastructure should be inserted in the JTDP
- The ERB should be used as an arena for offensive political discussions about infrastructure development
- The ERB should act as a joint political body towards national governments not least in infrastructural issues – also in contacts with the EU level, the member regions and municipalities.

Workshop 8: *Labour market cooperation within ERB: European Employment Strategy*

- Use the EU Employment strategy as a tool in the ERB cooperation activities
- Develop a dialogue between all ERB member regions about fair play on the labour market arena
- High priority to education/knowledge about different national regulations – to avoid tensions.