

Mimmu Piirto – Finnish Red Cross

National Society	Finnish Red Cross
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I've just recently joined the Finnish Red Cross a year ago in February 2004 and I have found the Red Cross really interesting and the Red Cross world fascinating.

I work as the Head of Organisational Development and Training -team in the Finnish Red Cross. This team is in charge of:

- The volunteer management systems development.
- The training for trainers.
- Facilitating the participation.
- Supporting local branches development.
- The firsts aids trainers training.
- Facilitating the trustees meetings on national level such as councils, meetings of district managers and the general assembly.

We also develop training for volunteers, group leaders, board members and trainers, we are responsible to keep a database on board members (local branches, district branches and councils), and we produce organisational development materials.

At the present time we are involved in a development process of creating a volunteer management system. Another important initiative for us will be the General Assembly that will be celebrated next September 2005. Regarding this matter we will develop the process of participation, questionnaires and trainings for the General Assembly. I think that it's also important our work in developing a training system for the Finnish Red Cross.

We have been trying to help and facilitate in many different ways to local branches and volunteers to participate in the process of design and preparation of the General Assembly of the Finnish Red Cross by elaborating questionnaires, trainings, interactive web pages, discussions, etc. about strategies and action plans. We have to take into account that 1,200 people from our local branches will attend this meeting. This is what I consider the most important achievement in the lasts months.