Unni Sølberg – Norwegian Red Cross

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I started working in the Norwegian Red Cross in January 1992. I was responsible for youth work, for the international youth camps, and also for a big national youth-camp in 1993. We had 1400 participants for one week at this camp.

Other earlier experiences in my Red Cross work were the development of our help-line for children, leadership training for volunteers and local boards, the elaboration of handbooks, organisational development work on local level, and the implementation of a big OD project at the national level between 1999 and 2002.

As an adviser in the Organisational Development Department we facilitate cooperation between the national board, the elected leaders and paid staff of our districts, and more concretely we:

- Give organisational development support to our districts on everyday matters.
- Give reports to the national board on the activities going on in local branches and districts.

The main functions of the National Department of Volunteering are to develop training materials for volunteers, to support our district branches in the development of recruiting campaigns, to set a standard for volunteers and for the volunteers' training, and to develop/evaluate a volunteer policy and manual in our National Society.

Nowadays I'm involved in the planning of the General Assembly that will take place in October 2005 for 750 participants. We are going to have 12 seminars for volunteers on different matters on volunteering during the General Assembly.

I consider that the most important achievement in the lasts months have been the agreements between the districts and the headquarters on focus areas, and obviously the following up of these agreements.