

**Marja-Ritta Pihlman**  
**Director General**  
**Department for Regions and Growth Services**  
**Ministry of Economic Affairs and Employment**  
**Finland**

### **Biography**

Marja-Riitta is a seasoned leader in various policy areas of Government with the knowledge of complex interrelations requiring multidisciplinary solutions. She has accumulated a wealth of experience in leading demanding public policy projects as well as in Government decision-making roles. Marja-Riitta is a member of the Ministry's Senior Management Group and the chairperson for the Steering committee on the regional government reform, regional development and the growth services at the ministry. She is renowned for her keen interest in the development of public services for citizens and businesses at municipal, regional, state and EU levels. In her current position, she is responsible for the redesign of the public employment services and services for enterprises as well as regional development, cohesion policy and structural funds. Enthusiastic pathfinder all around the globe, she takes pleasure in various outdoor recreational activities at land and sea. Always on a lookout for developing new skills of her own or spotting exceptional talent around her.