



RBC Blue Water Project Advisory Panel



David B. Brooks

Associate, International Institute for Sustainable Development and Director, SOFT Path Research for Polis Project in Ecological Governance

David Brooks serves as Associate, International Institute for Sustainable Development and Director, SOFT Path Research for Polis Project in Ecological Governance. Prior to that position, he served in several capacities, including Acting Director for Environment and Natural Resources Management, at Canada's International Development Research Centre, and, somewhat earlier, as the Founding Director of the Office of Energy Conservation at Energy, Mines & Resources Canada.

David Brooks was educated in geology at MIT (SB-1955) and California Institute of Technology (MS-1956), and in economics at the University of Colorado (PhD-1963). With this background, his main professional interests have followed the border between natural and social sciences, with principal focus on ways to reduce the demand for minerals, energy and water both to resolve supply-demand problems and to avoid environmental degradation. He was born in the United States but immigrated to Canada with his family in 1970. Since then, Brooks has worked in many developing countries but, in recent years, has concentrated on water problems in the Middle East.

David Brooks has authored or co-authored several books, including ZERO ENERGY GROWTH FOR CANADA; WATERSHED -- THE ROLE OF FRESH WATER IN THE ISRAELI-PALESTINIAN CONFLICT; and WATER -- LOCAL LEVEL MANAGEMENT. During the Oslo Phase of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, he served as special adviser to Foreign Affairs Canada and attended most of the meetings of the Water Resources and the Environment Working Groups. Brooks has been elected to the International Water Academy. In 2012, he received an Honorary Doctorate of Environmental Studies from the University of Waterloo.

David Brooks lives in Ottawa with his wife, Toby. His favourite leisure activities are trail skiing in winter and canoeing in summer, and Jewish religious studies when the weather does not encourage outdoor activities.



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