

Making the Most of the Water We Have

The Soft Path Approach to Water Management

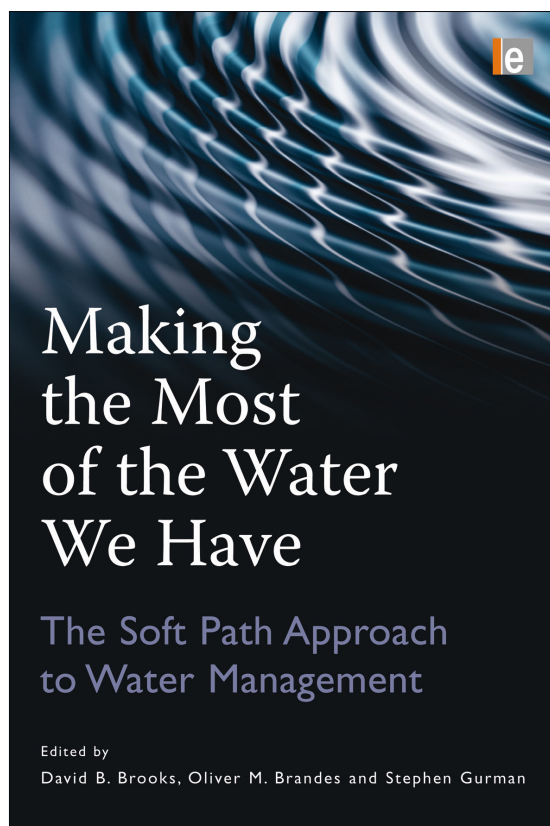
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Edited by David B. Brooks, Oliver M. Brandes and Stephen Gurman

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Based on the "soft path" approach to the energy sector, a transition is now under way to a soft path for water. This approach starts by ensuring that ecosystem needs for water are satisfied and then undertakes a radical approach to reducing human uses of water by economic and social incentives, including open decision-making, water markets and equitable pricing, and the application of super-efficient technology, all applied in ways that avoid jeopardizing quality of life.

The soft path for water is therefore a management strategy that frees up water by curbing water waste. This book is the first to present and apply the water soft path approach. It has three aims: to bring to a wider audience the concept and the potential of water soft paths; to demonstrate that soft path analysis is analytical and practical, and not just "eco-dreaming"; and to indicate that soft paths are not only conceptually attractive but that they can be made economically and politically feasible. Includes a tool kit for planners and other practitioners.

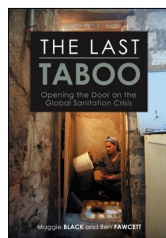
David B. Brooks was Canada's first Director of Energy Conservation, and later spent 15 years with IDRC (International Development Research Centre) on overseas projects on energy, water and natural resource management. He was one of the founders of Friends of the Earth Canada and now serves as its Senior Advisor - Fresh Water.

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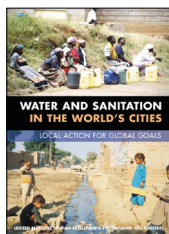
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CONTENTS

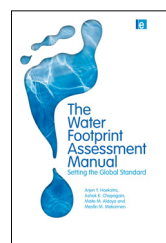
Introduction	10. WSP Analysis at a Watershed Scale
1. Why a Water Soft Path, and Why Now	11. WSP Analysis at a Provincial Scale
Part I: Water Soft Paths as Human Vision	Part III: Water Soft Paths as Planning Tool
2. Avoiding the Perfect Storm: Weathering Climate Change by Following its Effects on Water Resources	12. Removing Institutional Barriers to Water Soft Paths: - Challenges and Opportunities
3. In the Beginning: Soft Energy Paths	13. Pushing the Boundaries: Shifting Water Soft Paths Philosophy towards Hard Policy in Municipal Water Management
4. Getting it Right: Misconceptions About the Soft Path	14. Green Buildings and Urban Space
5. Practising Ecological Governance: The Case for the Soft Path for Water	15. Water Soft Path Thinking in the United States
6. Water Policy in Canada: Changing Course for the Soft Path	16. Water Soft Path Thinking in Other Developed Economies A England B The European Union C Australia
Part II: Water Soft Paths as Analytical Method	17. Water Soft Path Thinking in Developing Countries A South Africa B India C Middle East and North Africa
7. Getting Quantitative: The Canadian Water Soft Path Studies	Conclusion
8. Turning Principles into Practice: The WSP Scenario Builder	18. A Water Future Different from the Past
9. Thinking Beyond Pipes and Pumps: Water Soft Paths at the Urban Scale	Annex: How to Create A Soft Path Plan For Water



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