



**Personal details and autobiography**

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Geoff Barnard is Head of Information at the Institute of Development Studies (IDS), at the University of Sussex, UK. He graduated in natural sciences from Cambridge University in 1977, and has a Masters in Technology and Development from Imperial College, London (1980). He worked initially in the US as a research biochemist working on experimental biofuels conversion systems, before spending time studying biofuel options in Thailand. In 1980 he joined Earthscan (then part of IIED), where he researched and wrote on fuelwood use and biofuels in developing countries. In 1986 he became one of the founding members of the Panos Institute, where he played a variety of roles including London Office Director and Finance Director. He joined IDS in 1994, with the task of developing the Institute's first communication strategy. Over the past ten years has led the Institute's work in setting up a family of dedicated knowledge services designed to bridge the gaps between research, policy and practice. These include the Eldis, id21, and BRIDGE. In 2006, he helped organise a joint IDRC/DFID/IDS workshop on "Maximising the Impact of Development Research ". He is also currently co-convenor of the EADI Information Management Working Group.