



Region: Western Pacific  
Nominee's full name: **Amanda Davis**  
Job Title: **Chief Operating Officer**  
Organisation: **Brien Holden Vision Institute**  
Nominated by: The Fred Hollows Foundation  
Represented by: Brian Doolan  
Seconded by: Vision 2020 Australia

**Nominee's statement:**

The Western Pacific region is home to approximately 1.8 billion people and more than 25 countries at different stages of development. It is a diverse region with countries: having different eye health needs; at varying levels of health infrastructure and services; and with many different cultures including health seeking behaviours.

The significant achievements of IAPB to date have been through strong leadership and management of IAPB and through a dual approach of garnering and providing support to the member agencies. The foundation of IAPB is in its members and the relationship that has been developed at all levels. The strength of this is realised when the members are aligned in their advocacy efforts and collaborative in their approaches to strategy development and programming.

This member engagement needs to be further developed to ensure strengthened partnership and cooperation between members. This can be done through IAPB creating networks to ensure better aligned advocacy efforts, increasing a shared knowledge approach, providing guidance and encouraging efforts of members to work toward the GAP targets.

Importantly, the IAPB in the Western Pacific has a great resource in Vision 2020 Australia. It needs to continue to work closely with Vision 2020 Australia and its members with the priority countries that they have identified in the region and with the Australian and New Zealand governments and their aid agencies to ensure support for the region.



The IAPB needs to continue to advocate for the development and implementation of national eye plans – including providing support and advice for leadership and utilising the technical and development expertise of the members. This needs to extend to national and regional bodies and committees to improve the development and coordination of services and to assist these bodies in gaining commitment for resources.

An evidence base is essential to allow IAPB and its members to successfully advocate for leadership development, policy creation and change, and resource allocation. The IAPB needs to review current population based surveys, assist to identify gaps in information and advocate for additional surveys to be conducted.

The members are a rich source of data and information. The IAPB needs to work with the agencies to ensure analysis and learnings from the data is shared and assists to develop comprehensive planning for countries.

For any evidence base developed it is critical that the information is effectively communicated to all stakeholders – governments and government bodies, members, donors and media where appropriate.

In the next four years, the IAPB needs to use its successes, track record, established relationships and reputation to make greater in-roads to achieving universal eye health in the region. Highly developed communication strategies and pathways in the region will be the most valuable tool that can be employed in the region that will have the most significant impact.