

Global View



GLOBAL ALLIANCE
OF EYE BANK ASSOCIATIONS

Global data collection—commencing January 2016

January 2016 will mark the commencement of our world first global statistical data collection period.

The project, advised by the WHO, will capture valuable data to help determine service gaps – and ultimately where and how the international community can support each other.

Initially, the Global Alliance will be collecting annual figures for total donors and total corneal transplants per country. Over time the data frame may change but the intent is to commence with these two items.

All partner associations have been asked by the Global Alliance to submit their region's data for each calendar year – starting with 2016 (which means that these will be sent to the Global Alliance in early 2017).

For those members who are already submitting data to their Association, you do not need to

do anything as your Association will automatically add your data to your national total.

Data collected by your Association will be de-identified and submitted to the Global Alliance as one national tally for each country.

The Global Alliance will present and publish the global data for examination by the WHO, transplant, and ophthalmology communities. This will assist these professional bodies, as well as our own, with determining equitable access.

The Global Alliance would like to thank Brian Philippy – member of the EBAA, for his assistance with the development of this initiative.

For eye banks not currently providing data to a regional body, please contact Heather Machin to discuss inclusion
heather.machin@unimelb.edu.au



E.B.A.I

Let Your Eyes Change Someone's Life



Global Alliance Representatives

Association of Eye Banks of Asia

Professor Donald Tan, and
Pang Chia-Li

European Eye Bank Association

EO Gary Jones, and
Andrea Gareiss-Lok

Eye Bank Association of America

CEO Kevin P. Corcoran, and
David Glasser, MD

Eye Bank Association of Australia and New Zealand

Dr Graeme Pollock

Indian Eye Bank Association

Dr Samar K Basak, and
Ganesh Ganapathy, ED

Pan American Association of Eye Banks

Dr Luciene Barbosa, and
Dr Mark J Mannis

Development

Heather Machin, RN, MBA

Please Contact the Global Alliance via:

info@gaeba.org or via www.gaeba.org

GAEBA joins the IAPB



We are pleased to report that the Global Alliance has now been officially welcomed as a new member of the International Agency for the Prevention of Blindness, which is a global alliance of non-governmental agencies seeking excellence and quality in the provision of eye health services.

Their vision— A world in which everyone has access to the best possible standards of eye health; where no one is needlessly visually impaired; and where those with irreparable vision loss achieve their full potential—is matched comfortably with our own sector’s desire to continue to promote best practice in eye banking.

While the IAPB is involved in a variety of eye care sub-specialities—cataract, paediatric and diabetic eye disease being amongst them, their strategies in all sub-specialties are underpinned by a sector wide approach to capacity and sustainable service development, human resource planning and prevention of avoidable blindness.

The members of the IAPB are currently working towards the 2014-2019 Global Action Plan for Universal Eye Health, and the WHO Global Sustainability Goals.

The Global Alliance will keep abreast of activities which may be of benefit to the eye banking sector and will support the initiatives of the IAPB.

For further information please visit www.iapb.org

Export and Import Issues? *We would like to hear from you*

If you have ever experienced issues resulting from export or import of tissue, then we would like to hear from you.

During the San Diego conference many attendees expressed that they had experienced, or knew others who had experienced, issues such as couriers not authorised to transport tissue, tissue not being released from customs in a reasonable timeframe and, in some instances (and countries), reports of bribery.

While the anecdotal discussions that took place at the conference brought attention to this issue, the Global Alliance is seeking evidence from members who are willing to share their stories because, to-date, there appears to be very little published evidence.

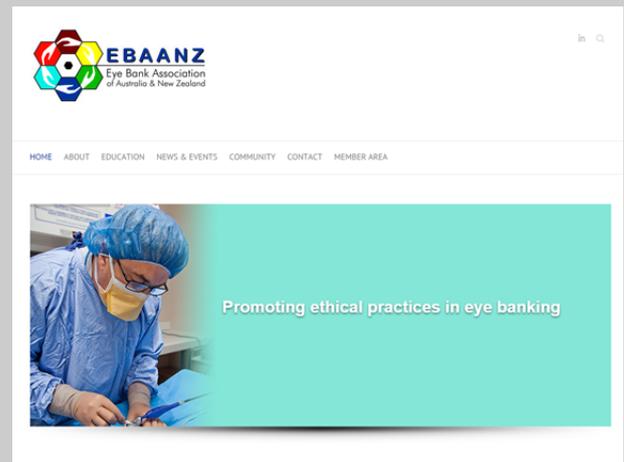
Additionally, we do not know if the issues are actually related to governing policy or logistics regulations, or service issues in our own sector. Again, without a greater understanding, we are unable to assist those in our sector who are seeking support and guidance.

Your involvement and shared stories will remain confidential. Any utilization of your story shall be de-identified unless your permission is otherwise provided.

By collating this information, we will be able to ascertain, as a sector, if we have a global problem requiring global intervention or if this is a regional or country specific issue—in which case, a diversion to the regional Associations may be recommended.

If you would like to find out more, or if you have stories that you would be willing to share, please contact Heather Machin via: heather.machin@unimelb.edu.au or your Association Representative.

EBAANZ & EBAA — *launch their new look websites*



<http://www.ebaanz.org/>



<http://restoresight.org/>



**International
Journal of
Eye Banking**

www.EyeBankingJournal.org

Global Mapping: We are continuing with our global mapping activity. We have currently tracked 877 eye banks. While we are not clear on the full function of all the eye banks we are pleased to report that a majority are linked to their region's eye bank association.

Bioethical Framework: Post the San Diego conference, we remain enthusiastic about developing a global bioethical framework. In order to commence this activity, the Global Alliance needs funding support. If you are in a position to assist, please contact Heather Machin: heather.machin@unimelb.edu.au.

Next Conference/s: We can confirm that we will be hosting a Scientific Conference in Singapore in 2020. We are also exploring an additional conference 2017/2018 however we are yet to secure a venue. We will keep you abreast of the plans for both events as they progress.

While we would like to see you at these GAEBA events, please also ensure you continue to support and attend your local conferences in the same year as the global events as they will continue to provide you with valuable local content.

XOVA Grant: The eye bank in Sydney, Australia— *Lions NSW Eye Bank*, is one of this year's recipients of the Novartis XOVA grant to support the development of eye bank services in Mandalay, Myanmar through their member collaboration with the Myanmar Eye Care Project. This is an annual award valued at US\$53,000. The GAEBA is thrilled that such an award will go directly to supporting eye banking. Congratulations to all involved.

EVENTS

2016

January

[22-23 EEBA 28th Annual Meeting. Aarhus, Denmark. http://2016.eeba.eu/article](http://2016.eeba.eu/article)

February

[5-9 World Ophthalmology Congress, Guadalajara, Mexico. www.icoph.org/events/event_detail/194/World-Ophthalmology-Congress-WOC-2016.html](http://www.icoph.org/events/event_detail/194/World-Ophthalmology-Congress-WOC-2016.html)

March

[9th EBAANZ Annual Meeting at the Corneal Society Meeting \(10-11\)—Melbourne, Australia](#)

June

[8-11 55th Annual EBAA Meeting, St Louis, Missouri, USA. http://restoresight.org](http://restoresight.org)

August

[18-13 26th International Congress of the Transplant Society, Hong Kong. http://www.tts2016.org/](http://www.tts2016.org/)

2018

June 16-19 World Ophthalmology Congress—Barcelona, Spain

2020

World Corneal Congress—Singapore

GAEBA Scientific Meeting - Singapore

Share your story or event

The Global Alliance invite you to share your stories, experiences and up-coming events in our next newsletter.

Please submit your story or event by February 2016 for submission in the March 2016 edition, to : info@gaeba.org