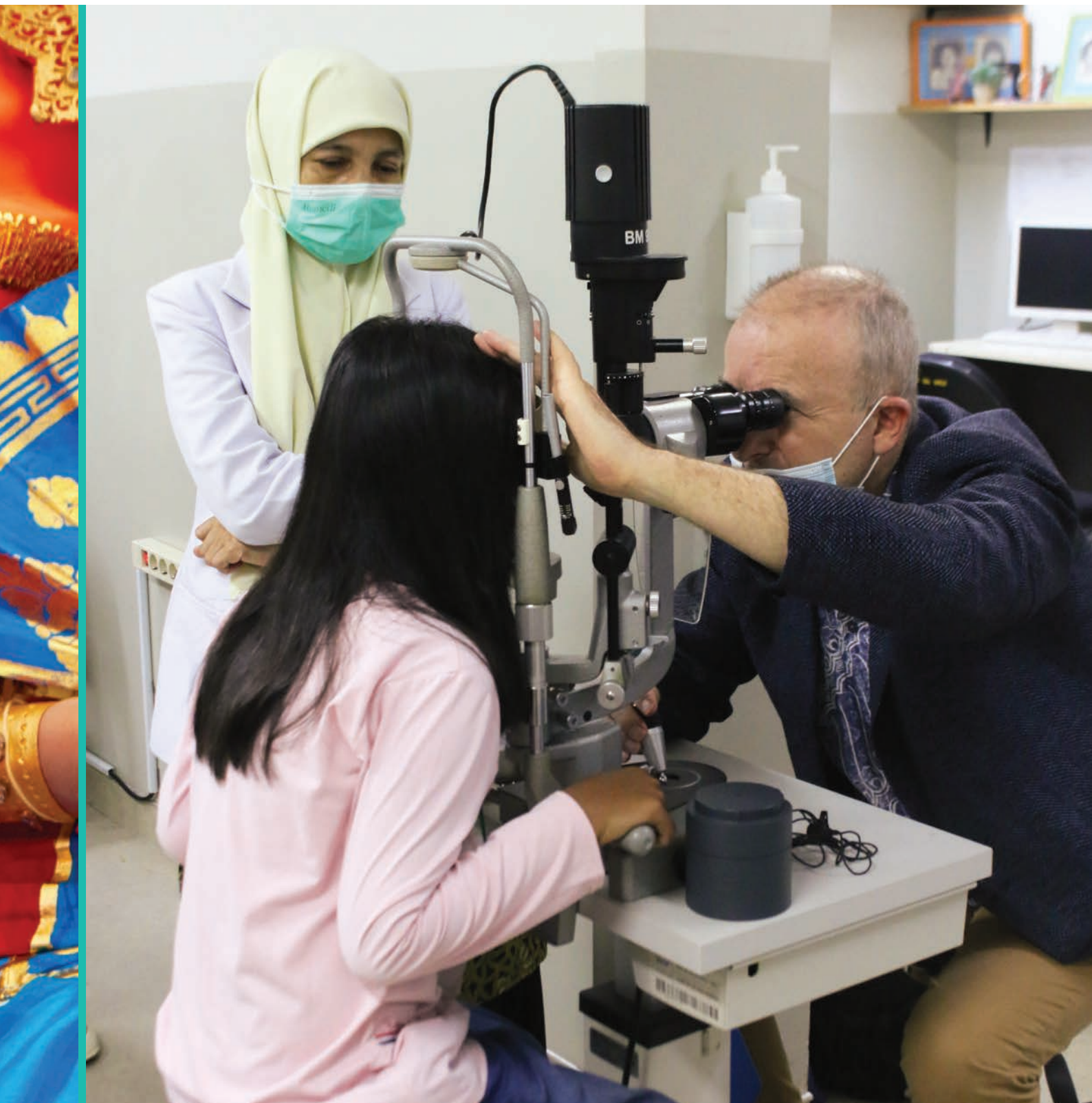
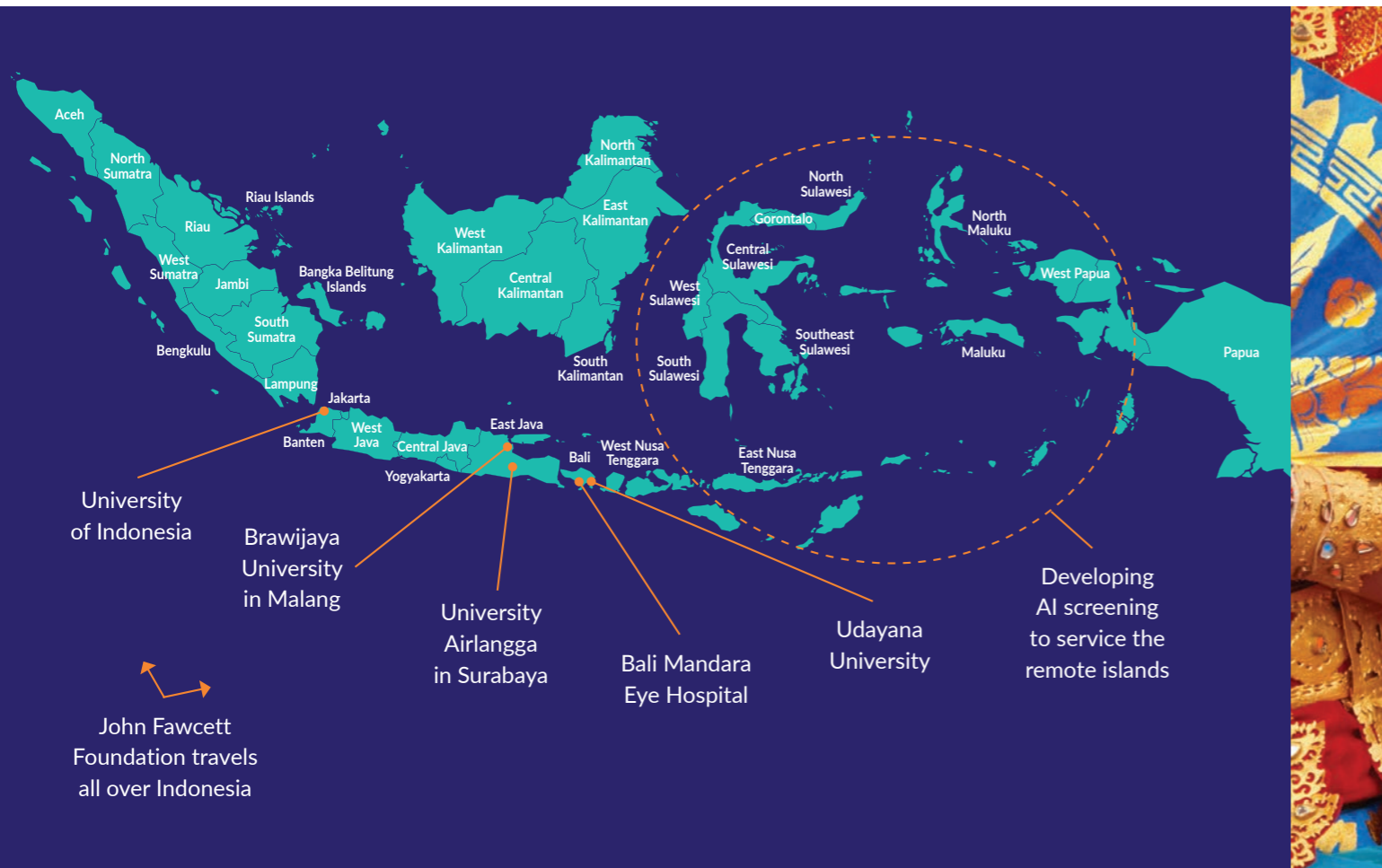


Global connections

Lions Eye Institute in Indonesia





The Lions Eye Institute's work and collaborations in Indonesia

Our historic relationship with Indonesia



Strengthening our collaborations in Indonesia with the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding with the University of Indonesia in 2019

The Lions Eye Institute's clinician researchers have been helping to reduce the alarming rates of blindness in Indonesia since the 1970s. Today, more than three million people are blind in Indonesia, largely due to cataract and glaucoma.



We are proud of how we have helped reduce the rates of blindness over the past four decades.

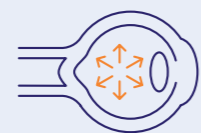
Highlights

- Since the 1970s, our clinician researchers have regularly travelled to Indonesia to **teach** and **demonstrate surgery** to students.
- For over 20 years a comprehensive **eye care partnership strategy** with Indonesia has been in place. This includes improving service provision, teaching students surgery techniques and collaborating on research projects.
- An **exchange program** between the Lions Eye Institute, Royal Perth Hospital and Indonesian ophthalmologists, fully supported by RANZCO, continues to this day.
- Over the past decade, 64 Indonesian trainee ophthalmologists have visited Perth to undertake an **Observership program**. In 2023, we began sending Western Australian trainees to Indonesia with support from the Perth Eye Foundation. This program provides an excellent training opportunity for trainee eye surgeons, allows relationships to be formed and skills to be developed and transferred.
- The strong bond between the Lions Eye Institute and Indonesia was highlighted in the aftermath of the Bali bombings in October 2002 when the Australian Government subsequently committed to funding the **Australia-Bali Memorial Eye Centre** (now renamed the Bali Mandara Eye Hospital) in Bali. The Australian Government called on the expertise of the Lions Eye Institute to drive its development.
- The Lions Eye Institute has signed **Memorandums of Understanding (MOUs)** with the University of Indonesia, Udayana University and Brawijaya University in Malang. The MOUs strengthen ties and foster innovation and training opportunities into the future.
- **Our clinicians and nurses volunteer** to assist the work of the humanitarian not-for-profit organisation, the John Fawcett Foundation. The program includes screening of 34,000 patients and 4,000 cataract surgeries annually from a mobile theatre van. The programs target people who are economically disadvantaged and all services are provided free of charge.
- The Lions Eye Institute **co-invented the Virna Glaucoma Drainage Device** in collaboration with the University of Indonesia. This low-cost drainage device is the only one approved by the Indonesian Ministry of Health and has made a substantial impact upon the rates of blindness from glaucoma. Over 2,000 have been implanted.
- The Lions Eye Institute is currently developing an innovative, cost-effective screening system to detect glaucoma and diabetes that is easily transportable to the remote islands of Indonesia. The low-cost system will help people living in remote areas of the country who have limited access to eye care.



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x 6 million

Glaucoma is the second most common cause of blindness in Indonesia. Six million of Indonesia's 270 million population have glaucoma – and one million of those are blind.



x 210,000 per year

Cataract is the leading cause of vision loss and blindness in Indonesia. Each year cataracts are diagnosed in 210,000 Indonesians – with most blind.

Impact



Dr Matthew Kenworthy speaking at a symposium in Indonesia as part of his Observership program. The Observership program is a critical component of training young surgeons. Thank you to the Perth Eye Foundation for its support of this critical initiative



Our clinicians and researchers have contributed to decreasing the rates of blindness in Indonesia. Here are some highlights of our achievements and impact.



Observership program

64 aspiring eye surgeons have participated in the Observership program



The year the Lions Eye Institute first started visiting Indonesia



Research capacity

has increased over the past 10 years



Volunteer

Lions Eye Institute staff volunteer their services and perform surgeries to assist the sight saving work of the John Fawcett Foundation



Artificial intelligence

Developing AI screening devices to reach those living on the remote islands of Indonesia



Exchange program

has been long established between the Lions Eye Institute, Royal Perth Hospital and Indonesian ophthalmologists



Staff from the Lions Eye Institute were instrumental in setting up the Australia-Bali Memorial Eye Centre (now called the Bali Mandara Eye Hospital) on behalf of the Federal government after the Bali bombings



Virna Glaucoma Drainage Device

Innovative invention co-developed by the Lions Eye Institute and Dr Virna Oktariana. A low-cost device with over 2,000 implanted



3.7 million people are blind in Indonesia

20 YEARS

Eye care partnership



35 million people with vision loss in Indonesia



Professor Bill Morgan conducting a post op examination on a patient who had the Virna Glaucoma Drainage Device surgically implanted

Prevalence of vision loss and blindness



Lions Eye Institute's Dr Jean-Louis deSousa training ophthalmology students in Indonesia

In 2020, there were an estimated 35 million people in Indonesia with vision loss. Of these, 3.7 million people were blind.

Figure 1 shows a comparison of the rates of vision loss and blindness in Indonesia, Australia and the United States of America. The main cause of vision loss and blindness in Indonesia is cataract followed by glaucoma. Both eye diseases are treatable with surgery, however are expensive and not easily accessible for most Indonesians.

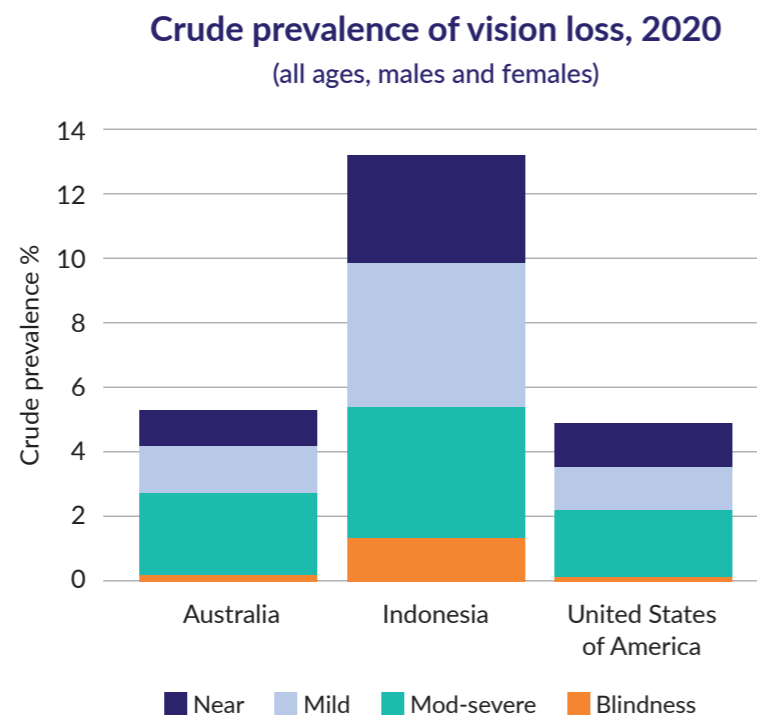


Figure 1 Crude prevalence of vision loss, 2020 Source: Country - The International Agency for the Prevention of Blindness (iapb.org)

Five-year strategy 2024 – 2028



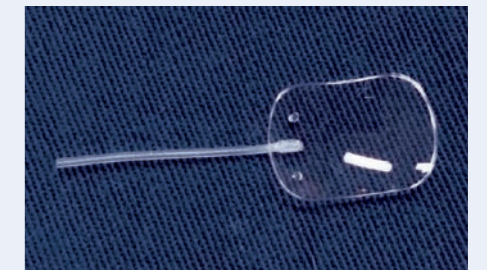
Research being undertaken in collaboration with colleagues at the University of Indonesia

The Lions Eye Institute's five-year strategy with Indonesia will build on the strong foundations of our already successful relationship.

Input into this strategy is being sought from the Western Australian government, Indonesian colleagues and the Indonesian Consulate General to Western Australia.

Once finalised, this landmark five-year strategy will demonstrate the importance of Western Australia's relationship with Indonesia and the unique joint medical research initiatives that will benefit both of our nations.

It is envisioned that the strategy will include trials, screening, cost effective surgical devices, training opportunities for emerging ophthalmologists and opportunities to commercialise inventions. This solidifies the Lions Eye Institute's mission of providing better vision for all.



The Virna Glaucoma Drainage Device



The Virna Glaucoma Drainage Device is helping to reduce the alarming rates of glaucoma in Indonesia.

The device stops ~90 per cent of severe glaucoma patients from going blind.

The Virna Glaucoma Drainage Device invention won the World Intellectual Property Organization 2018 Prize.



Lions Eye Institute's Maureen Gilpin and Johanna Du Plooy travelled to Indonesia to volunteer with John Fawcett Foundation's mobile eye clinic to help reduce rates of blindness due to cataract. Maureen and Johanna pictured with a cataract patient post-surgery

	AUSTRALIA	INDONESIA	UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
Global Burden of Disease (GBD) Region	Australasia	Southeast Asia	High-income North America
GBD Super Region	High-income	Southeast Asia, East Asia, Oceania	High-income
Population (2020)	25.5 million	274 million	331 million
GDP per capita (\$US, 2019)	54,907	4,136	65,118
Human Development Index (HDI) (2019)	0.94 (very high)	0.71 (high)	0.92 (very high)
Blindness (crude)	0.2%	1.40%	0.2%
All vision loss (crude)	5.3%	13.2%	5%
Proportion who are female	55%	55%	55%

Better vision for all.

