

# The FAANG Data Coordination Centre:

Driving metaFAIR, Global Coordination and  
EuroFAANG Objectives

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## Data Coordination Centre at EMBL-EBI

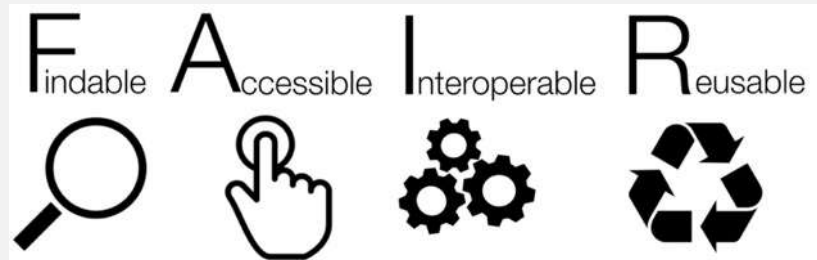
Supports core FAANG aims of data **openness, reusability, and standardisation** to create a harmonised rich **genome to phenome resource**.

- Ensuring data is richly described, available and searchable.
- Ensuring data is consistently reported and presented.
- Facilitating standardisation of formats, protocols and analysis methods.
- Facilitating data openness, reusability and cross-project analysis.

Funded by EU EuroFAANG projects, but serve the global FAANG community.

# What makes FAANG datasets special

- Rich, consistent and validated metadata descriptions.
- Standardised set of core assays from each contributing project.
- Mandatory sampling, experiment and analysis protocols connected to each dataset.
- Links to standardised analysis workflows with evert analysis file.
- A data platform and community drive that ensures data is open and FAIR.
- Innovative data presentation and contextual genome visualisation.



*To accelerate genome to phenome research*

Photo: CODATA

# FAANGs standardised datasets

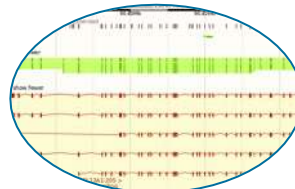
Publications



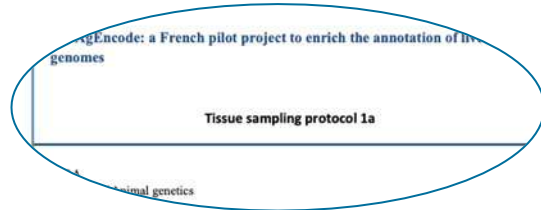
Rich, validated  
metadata



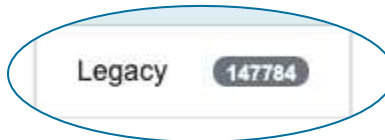
Analysis workflows  
and parameters



FAANG dataset



Detailed sampling and  
analysis protocols



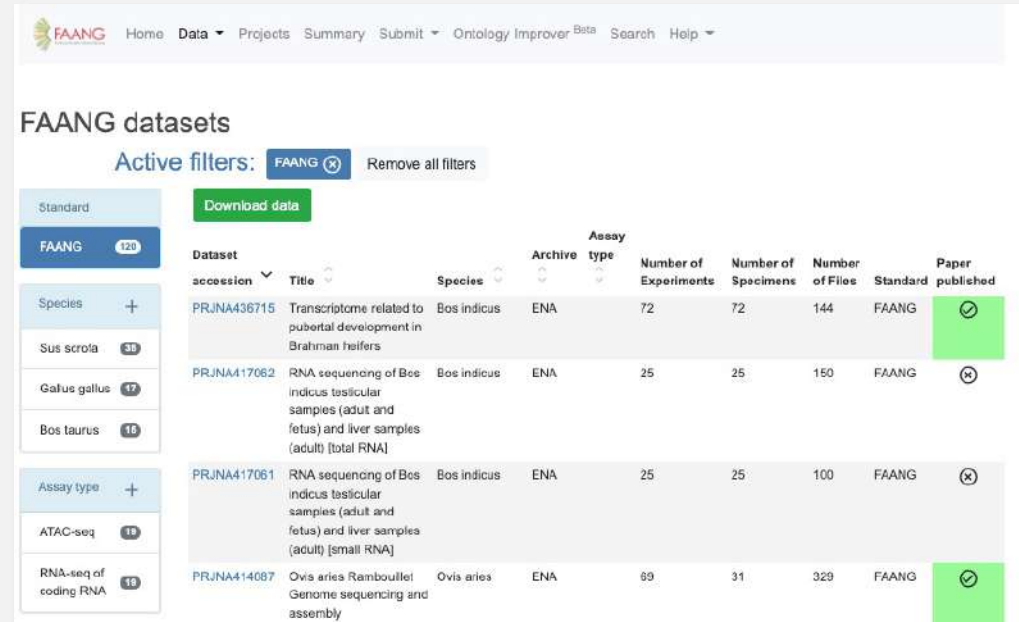
Legacy contextual datasets



Secondary analyses,  
track hubs and  
annotations

# The FAANG Data Portal

- A single access point to all FAANG metadata, data, pipelines and publications.
- Direct access to download data from underlying public archives.
- Automatically identifies dataset (re)use in publications, and links publications to datasets.
- Intuitive search and filtering.
- Data visualisation and cross referencing.



FAANG Home Data Projects Summary Submit Ontology Improver Beta Search Help

FAANG datasets

Active filters: FAANG Remove all filters

Standard 129

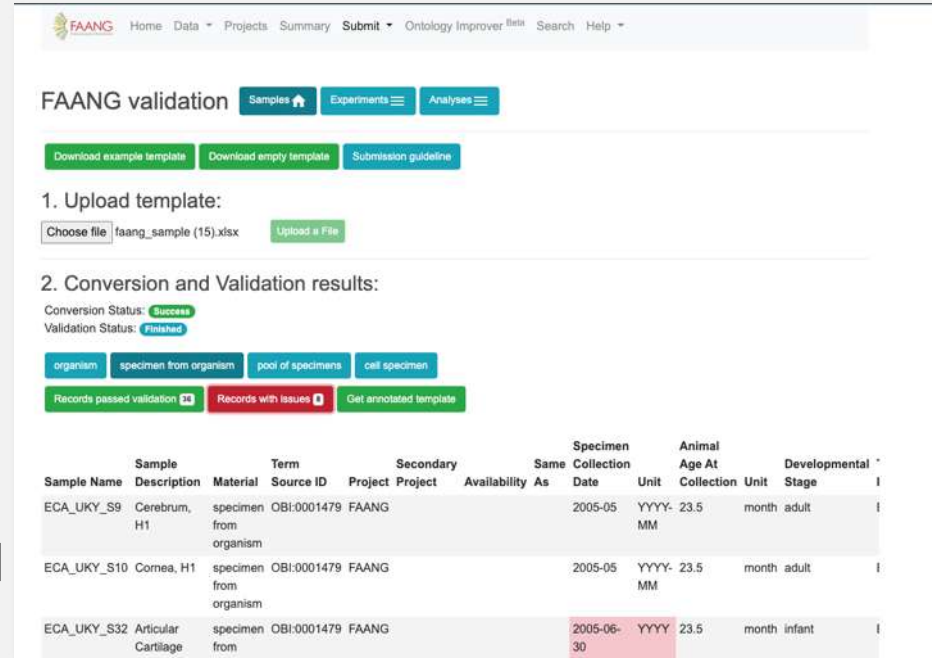
Download data

Dataset	Title	Species	Archive	Assay type	Number of Experiments	Number of Specimens	Number of Files	Standard	Paper published
PRJNA436715	Transcriptome related to pubertal development in Brahman heifers	Bos indicus	ENA		72	72	144	FAANG	✓
PRJNA417062	RNA sequencing of Bos indicus testicular samples (adult and fetus) and liver samples (adult) [total RNA]	Bos indicus	ENA		25	25	150	FAANG	✗
PRJNA417061	RNA sequencing of Bos indicus testicular samples (adult and fetus) and liver samples (adult) [small RNA]	Bos indicus	ENA		25	25	100	FAANG	✗
PRJNA414087	Ovis aries Rambouillet Genome sequencing and assembly	Ovis aries	ENA		69	31	329	FAANG	✓

<https://data.faang.org/>

# Validation and brokered submission

- All FAANG data has pre-submission validation, ensuring rich metadata.
- Not only highlights errors, suggests improvements such as more specific ontologies.
- Brokered submission to underlying archives simplifies process for users.
- Also submit protocols, track hubs and workflows with configuration files.



FAANG validation

Download example template | Download empty template | Submission guideline

1. Upload template:  
Choose file: faang\_sample (15).xlsx | Upload a File

2. Conversion and Validation results:  
Conversion Status: Success  
Validation Status: Finished

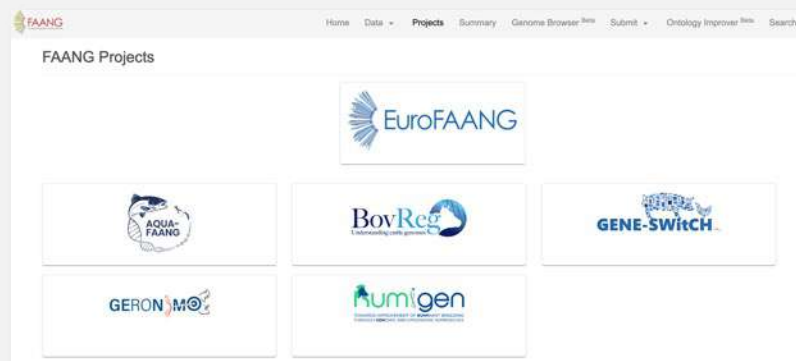
organism | specimen from organism | pool of specimens | cell specimen

Records passed validation: 21 | Records with issues: 1 | Get annotated template

Sample Name	Sample Description	Material	Term Source ID	Secondary Project	Same Availability	Specimen Collection Date	Animal Age At Collection Unit	Developmental Stage
ECA_UKY_S9	Cerebrum, H1	specimen from organism	OBI:0001479	FAANG		2005-05	YYYY-MM	23.5 month adult
ECA_UKY_S10	Cornea, H1	specimen from organism	OBI:0001479	FAANG		2005-05	YYYY-MM	23.5 month adult
ECA_UKY_S32	Articular Cartilage	specimen from	OBI:0001479	FAANG		2005-06-30	YYYY	23.5 month infant

<https://data.faang.org/validation/samples>

# Project Specific Pages



- Specific customised sub project views.
- Automatically displays just that projects data, pipelines, publications, metadata and track hubs.
- Can be further customised with project descriptions, figures, specific table views etc.
- Request one for your FAANG project.

<https://data.faang.org/projects>



# metaFAIR task force



Functional Annotation of ANimal Genomes (FAANG) Project  
— A coordinated international action to accelerate Genome to Phenome

## Task Force: metaFAIR

— FAANG Metadata, Ontologies and FAIR Data Sharing Task Force

Sign up at  
[www.faang.org](http://www.faang.org)

The Task Force will review and recommend development to the FAANG Data Coordination Centre on the following key areas:

1. The FAANG metadata standards (<https://data.faang.org/ruleset/samples>).
2. The process and guidance documentation for FAANG validation and submissions.
3. The improvement of ontologies through the FAANG Ontology Improvement Tool (<https://data.faang.org/ontology>), including organising ontology focus workshops.
4. Track hub standardisation, submission and presentation for FAANG analysis results.
5. How FAIR is FAANG data and what could be improved?
6. Prepare FAANG for developments in single cell atlases, pangenomes and emerging technologies.
7. Phenotyping recording improvement across FAANG.
8. Management of Information Sharing. Recording of Nagoya and clearer recording of third party limitations on data/phenotyping data use and IP.\*
9. Identify training requirements for the FAANG consortia.
10. Contribute to organised scientific dissemination to the whole community.



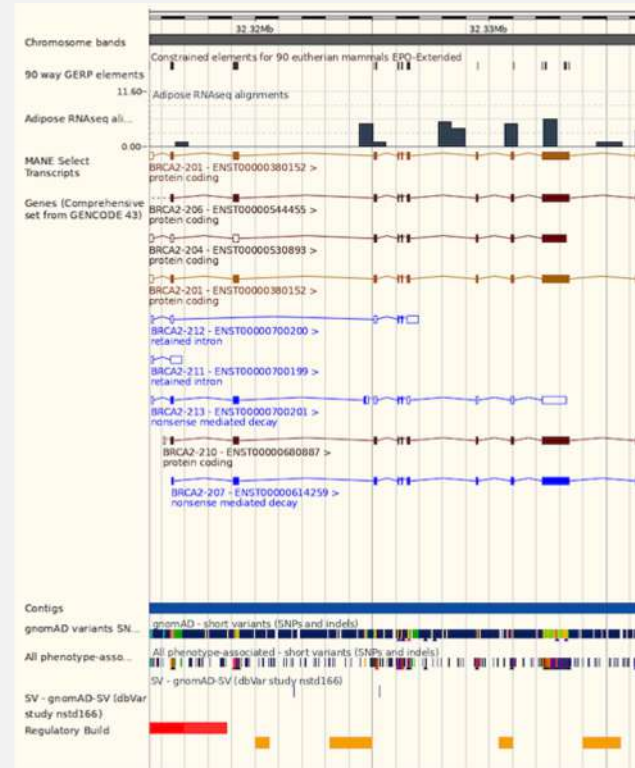
# e!Ensembl Genome Browser

- A genomics platform and browser for enabling and accelerating downstream science.
- Standardized, high quality and richly described FAANG data is driving new annotations in Ensembl.
- Range of tools such as Variant Effect Predictor, EMBL industry promotion and ongoing training.

Comparative  
analysis

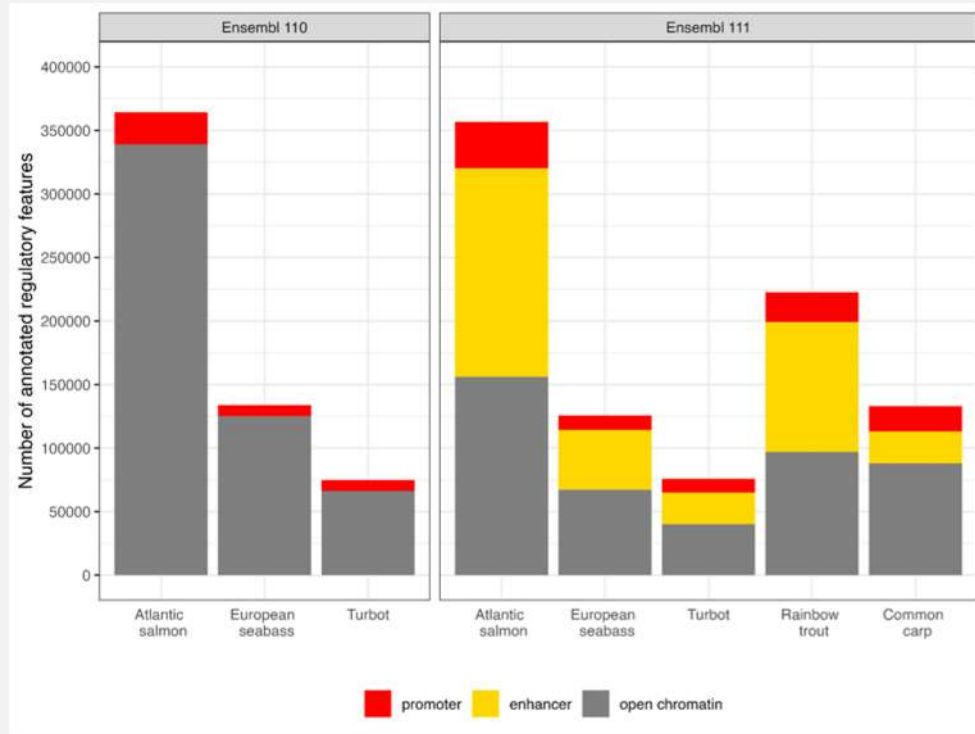
Gene and  
transcript  
annotation

Variation  
Regulatory  
elements



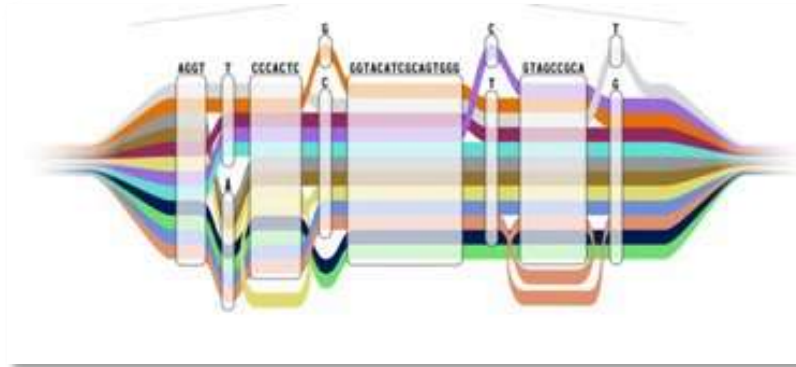
# e!Ensembl First Regulatory builds

- In collaboration with EuroFAANG projects released Ensembl regulatory builds for chicken, pig and 5 fish species.
- Driven new Ensembl annotation methods and visualisation.
- Viewable in the Ensembl browser.



# e!Ensembl Future directions

- Ensembl will continue to update and improve reference annotations and looking forward to adding T2T references.
- Always looking for further species and breeds/strains of economic and research interest.
- This variation builds towards a pangenomic view for each species, following work being done in human and crops.
- Through Earth BioGenome Projects Ensembl is looking to annotate all eukaryotic species.



- The FAANG DCC and Data Portal have been funded by EuroFAANG projects and is now a key component of the future EuroFAANG Research Infrastructure.
- Expanding DCC and portal to support new breeding, phenotyping, biobanking, genome editing and genomic technologies.
- Will retain a global focus and connection, guidance by FAANG steering committee and metaFAIR task force.



Horizon2020  
European Union Funding  
for Research & Innovation

# Elixir Domestic Animal Genomes and Phenomes

- Launching new task force this year.
- Being driven by EuroFAANG and emerging Research Infrastructures on Phenotyping.
- Elixir brings together scientists from 23 countries and over 250 research institutes to:
  - Coordinate data and technology discussions
  - Develop standards
  - Standardise analysis and workflows
  - Organise training, workshops and hackathons
  - Connect to global efforts



# Summary



- Continuing to strive for high quality, richly described and standardised data.
- Request a FAANG Data Portal specific customised page for your project.
- Utilise the new track hub submission and visualisation tools to increase the usability and impact of your FAANG results/papers.
- Your data is driving improved Ensembl annotations.
- Sign up to the metaFAIR and Elixir Domestic Animal Genomes and Phenomes task forces.



Photo: Peter Harrison



# Acknowledgments



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Project Lead



**Koosum Roochun:**  
Bioinformatician



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<https://data.faang.org/>  
<https://www.ensembl.org/>



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