

# ELIXIR Beacon Strategic Calls

## Minutes and Actions Q2. 2018

A GA4GH Discovery Work Stream Subgroup

These are the minutes for the Beacon meetings, a driver project of the GA4GH Discovery Work Stream. For further information, please visit the GA4GH Work Stream page at <https://ga4gh.org>. (See also the [Vision Statement](#) and recent [Activities](#))

Other minutes documents are available:

[Current](#)

[Archive Folder](#)

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### 2018-06-26: Activity report

**Chair:** Gary

**Attendees:** Gary, Ilkka, Gejin, Marko, Tony, Miro

**Regrets:**

	Actions Arising	Assigned To	Deadline
1.			

	Agenda Item	Speaker	Time
1.	Approve <a href="#">previous minutes</a> and confirm Agenda	Chair	5 min
2.	Review of Actions (below)	David	5 min
3.	<a href="#">Beacon 2019-21 Project Plan</a>	Gary	10 min
4.	Technical <a href="#">Update</a> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Release update</li><li>- Submitted to GA4GH for product approval</li><li>- Review committee report soon, aim to meet deadline for GA4GH</li></ul>	Gary/Juha	5 min
4.	GA4GH Update <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Updates from calls in the past weeks (see <a href="#">list</a> for calls &amp; involvement)</li><li>• DUR1 20th June</li><li>• Discovery Network</li></ul>	As appropriate	10 min
5.	<a href="#">GA4GH REWS Questionnaire</a>	Gary	5 min

6.	<a href="#">Beacon Paper</a> update	Gary	5 min
7.	Beacon mailing lists <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="mailto:beacon@elixir-europe.org">beacon@elixir-europe.org</a> (48)</li> <li><a href="mailto:GA4GH-dwg-beacon@genomicsandhealth.org">GA4GH-dwg-beacon@genomicsandhealth.org</a> (88)</li> <li>26 in common</li> <li>15 to add from AH meeting</li> </ul>	David	5 min
8.	Forthcoming activity: 3rd July Technical Call 10th July Strategic Call		

	Previous Actions	Assigned	Deadline	Update
2.	One-page document for Beacon 25PMs to split into workpackages - take from one-pager in draft Programme	Gary		<a href="#">Doc</a>
2.	Develop document setting out aims as a DURi Driver Project (Beacon as a use case for AAI) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Is AAI <i>bona fide</i> researcher part of GA4GH Library Cards?</li> </ul>	Gary		<a href="#">doc</a>

GJMG: Beacon on non-genetic data?  
GS: Focused on genetic data, current data allows discovery of any matrix-based data.  
Plan WP => call for options to be considered and report generated (cloud servers) or directory (ERIC, BBMRI etc)  
Not currently in a positon to action this, work call for invesitgate & report  
TB: Matrix-based data?  
GS: Possible to query any matrix, delivering a response and index  
TB: Simply how one states the query, would be interested in considering openings. (Now is a good time)

TB: Illumina Case Log - highly similar to Cafe Variome.  
Decided to merge the two API's to allow interoperability  
Avoid inventing additional ways to express variants - will contact Rishi to see if other GA4GH activity.

## 2018-06-19 Technical Call

Juha, Gary, David, Tony, Marko,  
[Slides](#)  
Review of outstanding GitHub issues

- All resolved or agreed to put on hold
- It was agreed to release v1.0.0 (draft release, visible to developers)
- Agreed to keep name v0.4.1 (likely the approval process may require even one minor change)

Product approval [document](#) reviewed and updated.  
(Outstanding questions; ask for clarification)

## 2018-06-12: Joint Strategic & Technical

**Chair:** Gary  
**Attendees:** Ilkka, Jordi, Marko, Jordi, Mike, Tony, Dylan, David

**Regrets:**

	Actions Arising	Assigned To	Deadline
1.	Develop document setting out aims as a DURi Driver Project (Beacon as a use case for AAI)	Gary	26th June (TC)

	- Is AAI <i>bona fide</i> researcher part of GA4GH Library Cards?		
2.	One-page document for Beacon 25PMs to split into workpackages - take from one-pager in draft Programme		

	Agenda Item	Speaker	Time
1.	Approve <a href="#">previous minutes</a> and confirm Agenda	Chair	5 min
2	Review of Actions (below)	David	5 min
3.	GA4GH Update <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Updates from calls in the past weeks (see <a href="#">list</a> for calls &amp; involvement)</li> <li>• Discovery WS call 12th May (<a href="#">Link</a>)</li> <li>• Beacon Search 6th June cancelled (<a href="#">link</a>)</li> <li>• v1.0 progress</li> </ul>	As appropriate	10 min
4.	Use Case of ELIXIR Beacon from GA4GH meeting: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• DURi WS suggestion</li> <li>• BN -- AAI -- Data at registered (and also possibly controlled) levels</li> <li>• Can build in time for Plenary meeting?</li> <li>• <b>AI:</b> Gary to build summary doc for next strategic call</li> </ul>	Gary	5 min
5.	ELIXIR All Hands HoN feedback for Beacon: Structure of ELIXIR Human Data Communities and relationship to Beacon Timeline for Beacon project plan for 2019-2020 Including potential for Beacon staff exchange funds <b>AI:</b> Gary to send one-pager round for WP structure suggestions which we can nail down during next call	Gary	10 min
6.	Workshop (WP2) update	David	5 min
7.	<a href="#">Beacon Paper</a> update	Gary	5 min
8.	Technical <a href="#">Update</a> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Review of last sprint (and prep. for the next)</li> </ul>	Gary/Juha	5 min
9.	Forthcoming activity: 19th June Technical Call 26th June Strategic Call		

	Previous Actions	Assigned	Deadline	Update
1.	WP2 AH <a href="#">Workshop</a>	David		Done
2.	<a href="#">GA4GH Security Document</a>	Gary		Submitted

Beacon as an example of AAI deployment - a use case for DURi  
 Much infrastructure in place  
 Library Cards - Specification available? Any implementation?

Work with DURi - align the AAI *Bona Fide* Researcher with GA4GH *Bona Fide* Researcher.  
 (See [Webpage](#) and documents from [2016](#) and [2018](#))

## 2018-05-29: Network API Draft

**Chair:** David  
**Attendees:** Juha Törnroos, Jordi, David, Marko, Sabela, Tony, Thomas, Mike,

**Regrets:** Gary Saunders, Dylan Spalding, Ilkka Lappalainen

	Actions Arising	Assigned To	Deadline
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1.	Final changes to GA4GH <a href="#">Security document</a>	Gary	
2.	Final details of AH workshop	David et al.	

	Agenda Item	Speaker	Time
1.	Approve <a href="#">previous minutes</a> and confirm Agenda	Chair	5 min
2	Review of Actions (below)	David	5 min
3.	Technical Update <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Review of last <a href="#">sprint</a> (and prep. for the next)</li> </ul>	Juha	10 min
4.	GA4GH Update <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Updates from calls in the past weeks (see <a href="#">list</a> for calls &amp; involvement)</li> <li>• Beacon Search 23rd May (<a href="#">link</a>)</li> <li>• Beacon Network 24th May (<a href="#">link</a>)</li> </ul>	As appropriate	10 min
5.	ELIXIR Beacon Network Draft Model and API Considerations	Jordi <a href="#">Slides</a>	
6.	GA4GH v1.0 progress: <i>Finalizing the <a href="#">Security document</a></i> <i>Comments from Jordi and Michael to be actioned</i> <a href="#">Approval submission form</a>	David	5 min
7.	Workshop (WP2) <a href="#">Attendees</a> (26 so far)	David / Jordi	10 min
8.	Beacon Paper update	David	2 min
9.	Forthcoming activity: 5th June Technical Call (Cancelled, overlap with ELIXIR All Hands meeting) 7th June Workshop at the ELIXIR All Hands meeting 12th June Strategic Call		

	Previous Actions	Assigned	Deadline	Update
1.	WP2 AH <a href="#">Workshop</a> - follow on call to finalise e-Learning section	David	Call to be arranged for 17th May	Done, plans in place
2.	<a href="#">GA4GH Security Document</a> open for comments for two weeks. Gary, Dylan, and others will action comments between now and closure at next Strategic meeting. Will then finalise document for submission to GA4GH Security leads by 1st June.	Gary	Next strategic call for comments & suggestions	
3.	ELIXIR-Beacon <a href="#">section for ELIXIR 2019-23 Programme</a>	Gary	Comments & suggestions by 18th May	
4.	Circulate latest draft of Beacon paper <a href="#">Paper</a> as submitted to Nature Biotech. <a href="#">Reviewers comments</a>	David	Next strategic call for comments & suggestions	

- ELIXIR Beacon Network presentation:
- Look for similar activity elsewhere - avoid reinventing wheels.
  - Developing ideas, and then look for technologies that could provide this
  - Similar issues in Cafe Variome Networks
    - Standalone tool anyone can join and set user lists etc.
    - Control interface in software
    - Access control etc. centrally managed (Doesn't suit all users)
    - Investigating those functions that can be less centralized.

Could link with ELIXIR AAI - make this a requirement of any Beacon?

Network to be open or closed? Develop a solution that allows both, and other combinations.

Need to consider the meaning of “open” / “closed” without a list of users?  
Different levels of complexity. (If a user is identified, that ID should flow through the network)

## 2018-05-15: Future developments

**Chair:** Gary Saunders  
**Attendees:**  
**Regrets:**

	Actions Arising	Assigned To	Deadline
1.	WP2 AH <a href="#">Workshop</a> - follow on call to finalise e-Learning section	David	Call to be arranged for 17th May
2.	<a href="#">GA4GH Security Document</a> open for comments for two weeks. Gary, Dylan, and others will action comments between now and closure at next Strategic meeting. Will then finalise document for submission to GA4GH Security leads by 1st June.	Gary	Next strategic call for comments & suggestions
3.	ELIXIR-Beacon <a href="#">section for ELIXIR 2019-23 Programme</a>	Gary	Comments & suggestions by 18th May
4.	Circulate latest draft of Beacon paper <a href="#">Paper</a> as submitted to Nature Biotech. <a href="#">Reviewers comments</a>	David	Next strategic call for comments & suggestions

	Agenda Item	Speaker	Time
1.	Approve <a href="#">previous minutes</a> and confirm Agenda	Chair	5 min
2	Review of Actions (below)	David	5 min
3.	Technical Update <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Review of last <a href="#">sprint</a> (and prep. for the next)</li></ul>	Gary	10 min
4.	GA4GH Update <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Updates from calls in the past weeks (see <a href="#">list</a> for calls &amp; involvement)<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>◦ Discovery Search (9th May)</li><li>◦ DURi (9th May)</li></ul></li><li>• Peter Goodhand meeting<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>◦ Bringing in National cohorts</li><li>◦ Generate a competition to incentivise Beacons?</li><li>◦ ELIXIR funding/involvement going forward</li></ul></li></ul>	Gary & others	10 min
5.	Beacon ELIXIR 2019-23 Programme; <a href="#">vision for 2019-21</a> <i>comments/suggestions on document welcome before end of week</i>	Gary	5 min
6.	GA4GH v1.0 progress: <i>Potential timeline: submitted to GA4GH week before leadership meeting</i> <a href="#">Security document</a> <i>Comments from Jordi and Michael to be actioned</i> <a href="#">Approval submission form</a>	Gary  (Dylan?)	5 min
7.	Workshop (WP2) <a href="#">Attendees</a> (22 so far, 12 are new beaconeers) <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Draft <a href="#">Schedule</a> to review / approve</li><li>- Trainer to deliver tutorial content?</li></ul>	David / Jordi	10 min
8.	Beacon Paper update	David	2 min
9.	GDPR implementation (review of mailing list)	David	2 min
10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Next Calls:</li><li>- 22th May Technical Call</li><li>- 29th May Strategic Call</li></ul>		

	Previous Actions	Assigned	Deadline	Update
1.	Circulate documents for completion by next Strategic call <a href="#">Security document</a> <a href="#">Approval submission form</a>	Gary, Jordi, Ilkka, Dylan	15th May	
2.	Funding discussion via email thread			
3.	Circlate Workshop agenda to WP2 personnel for confirmation	David	15th May	AH <a href="#">Workshop schedule</a>

## 2018-05-01: Future Funding

**Chair:** Gary Saunders  
**Attendees:** Dylan Spalding, Stephanie Dyke, Miro Cupak, Marko

**Regrets:**

	Actions Arising	Assigned To	Deadline
1.	Circulate documents for completion by next Strategic call <a href="#">Security document</a> <a href="#">Approval submission form</a>	Gary, Jordi, Ilkka, Dylan	15th May
2.	Funding discussion via email thread		
3.	Circlate Workshop agenda to WP2 personnel for confirmation	David	15th May

	Agenda Item	Speaker	Time
1.	Approve <a href="#">previous minutes</a> and confirm Agenda	Chair	5 min
2	Review of Actions (below)	David	5 min
3.	Technical Update <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Review of last <a href="#">sprint</a> (and prep. for the next)</li> <li>- Current sprint</li> <li>- First mini-Hackathon (<a href="#">Document</a>)</li> </ul>	Gary	10 min
4.	GA4GH Update <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Updates from calls in the past weeks: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Discovery Search (23rd April, Jordi?)</li> <li>- DURl (next 9th May)</li> <li>- GKS (Michael) =&gt; variant annotation <a href="#">definitions doc</a></li> <li>- Discovery Networks (26th April, Miro?)</li> <li>- Others</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	Gary	10 min
5.	Beacon future funding	Gary	5 min
6.	GDPR workshop meeting report: <a href="#">link</a>	David	5 min
7.	Workshop (WP2) <a href="#">Attendees</a> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Draft <a href="#">Schedule</a> to review / approve</li> <li>- Trainer to deliver tutorial content?</li> </ul>	David / Jordi	10 min
8.	GA4GH v1.0 progress: Timeline: submitted to GA4GH week before leadership meeting <a href="#">Security document</a> <a href="#">Approval submission form</a>	Gary  (Dylan?)	5 min
9.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Next Calls:</li> <li>- 8th May Technical Call</li> <li>- 15th May Strategic Call</li> </ul>		

	Previous Actions	Assigned	Deadline	Update
1.	Clarification of where the Beacon Spec should be found	Rishi et. al.		Agreed <a href="#">ga4gh-beacon</a>

**3. Sprint** - slide 12, pretty much a carry over from last sprint  
 Reduced working days due to series of public holidays.

**4. GA4GH Update:**  
 Discovery WS agree that the GA4GH Beacon API specification will live where it currently does, [ga4gh-beacon](#).  
 Discovery Search - interested in the MME implementing the search API

**5. Future Funding**  
 Current ELIXIR funding until Dec 2018  
 Anticipate an opportunity for future funding within the ELIXIR 2019-23 Programme  
 To position any application will need to develop:

- Strategic aims
- High level goals
- Nominated person to be involved meeting at AH

Internal deadline 11th May to draw up high level smart objective for Beacon 2 years time.

**7. Workshop:** Existing training materials (How to light a beacon) upload to TeSS before the workshop  
 For the Tutorial:

- Need Powerpoint or other written materials
- Trainer, and time to give a presentation.
- video connection
- By 1st June. (Need to arrange a TC of this working group Mid May)

Contact WP2 people regarding the proposed schedule (any items missing?)

**8. Security document** not directly connected with the GA4GH v1.0 application but good to stick to the same timeline. Discovery Search, DURl and other workstreams preparing these documents.  
 Submission doc:  
 Most details available, need two ref implementations (CSC), URLs and documentation to be in place.  
 Will develop draft and build, aim to complete by next Strategic call  
 Submit a week before the Toronto meeting (Deadline has passed for full consideration)  
 Circulate documents after the call

## 2018-04-17: Towards GA4GH v1.0

**Chair:** Gary Saunders  
**Attendees:** Heidi Sofia, Ilkka Lappalainen, Juha Törnroos, Miro Cupak, Rishi Nag, Sabela de La Torre, David Lloyd, Gert-Jan van de Geijn

**Regrets:**

	Actions Arising	Assigned To	Deadline
1.	Clarification of where the Beacon Spec should be found	Rishi et. al.	

	Agenda Item	Speaker	Time
1.	Approve <a href="#">previous minutes</a> and confirm Agenda Previous	Chair	5 min
2	Review of Actions (below)	David	5 min
3.	Technical Update ( <a href="#">link</a> ) <a href="#">link</a> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Review of last sprint</li> <li>- Current sprint</li> <li>- First mini-Hackathon (24th April)</li> </ul>	Gary	10 min
4.	GA4GH Update <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Beacon GA4GH involvement <a href="#">matrix</a></li> <li>- Updates from calls in the past weeks:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Ewan (11th April)</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	Gary	10 min



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Discovery (11th April, Jordi?)</li> <li>- DURi (Dylan?)</li> <li>- GKS (Michael) =&gt; variant annotation <a href="#">definitions doc</a></li> <li>- Others</li> </ul>		
5.	GDPR workshop (16th April) <i>verbal update</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Draft notes &amp; slides <a href="#">link</a></li> <li>• BBMRI-ERIC webinar 26th April <a href="#">link</a></li> </ul>	Gary	5 min
6.	Workshop (WP2) <a href="#">Attendees</a> (All Hands 4-7th June, <a href="#">Registration</a> by 21st April) Call to be arranged mid-May	David / Jordi	10 min
7.	<a href="#">MT DNA in Beacon</a>	Gary	5 mins
8.	<a href="#">ECCB 18</a> workshop <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Invited to give 2-hour workshop</li> <li>- Loosely based on AH workshop?</li> <li>- Any strategic members attending conference?               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- (May be able to fund attendance)</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	Gary	5 mins
9.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Next Calls:</li> <li>- 24th April mini-Hackathon (12:00 - 17:30 CET / 06:00 - 12:30 EST)</li> <li>- 1st May Strategic Call</li> </ul>		

	Previous Actions	Assigned	Deadline	Update
1.	Contact Italian and Norwegian nodes	Hub		Italian Node planning to light a Beacon on 1KG data.
2.	Circulate & complete GA4GH involvement <a href="#">matrix</a>	Hub / All		

Clarification as to where the Beacon Spec. will live (GA4GH Discovery or Beacon GitHub space)  
 Feedback from Beacon leadership - Jordi, Michael. (Rishi to arrange discussion)

## 2018-04-03: Reports

**Chair:**  
**Attendees:**  
**Regrets:**

	Actions Arising	Assigned To	Deadline	
1.	Contact Italian and Norwegian nodes	Hub		
2.	Circulate & complete GA4GH involvement matrix	Hub / All		

	Agenda Item	Speaker	Time
1.	Approve <a href="#">previous minutes</a> and confirm Agenda Previous	Chair	5 min
2	Review of Actions (below) <i>None outstanding</i> <a href="#">Press release</a>	David	5 min
3.	Technical Update ( <a href="#">link</a> ) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Review of last sprint</li> <li>- Current sprint</li> <li>- Planning for following sprint</li> </ul>	Gary	10 min
4.	GA4GH Update <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Beacon GA4GH involvement <a href="#">matrix</a> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Please review and add comments before call</li> <li>- Plan to have this finalised and to use as a basis for call with Ewan and Peter <a href="#">questions</a></li> </ul> </li> </ul>	Gary	10 min



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Updates from calls in the past weeks: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Discovery (Jordi?)</li> <li>- DURi (Dylan?)</li> <li>- GKS (Michael) =&gt; variant annotation <a href="#">definitions doc</a></li> <li>- Others</li> </ul> </li> </ul>		
5.	Develop plan for Beacon as an ELIXIR service <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- (Gary) I have spoken with Serena and Jerry at the hub and have some guidance Post 2019 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- ELIXIR service application and tender</li> <li>- Integrate with ELIXIR platform?</li> <li>- Next steps? Specific call to be arranged? Who to invite?</li> </ul> </li> <li>- Volunteer to chair and build agenda?</li> </ul>	Gary	5 min
6.	Wider Node engagement <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Luxembourg - new Beacon</li> <li>• Italy - engaged in Implementation Study <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◦ Beacons and workshops</li> <li>◦ Hub plans to contact directly</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Norway - engaged in Implementation Study <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◦ Marine data (Industry)</li> <li>◦ Again Hub plans to contact directly</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Slovenia - workshop materials</li> </ul>	David	5 min
7.	Workshop (WP2, All Hands) (All Hands 4-7th June, <a href="#">Registration</a> by 21st April)	Slovenia / David / Jordi	10 min
8.	Beacon as a use-case at GDPR workshop (16th April, Brussels)	Gary	10 min
9.	Next Calls: 10th April Technical Call 17th April Strategic Call		

	Previous Actions	Assigned	Deadline	Update
1.				

Discussion:

**Technical Review** of the last call

It was agreed to drop Ada-M from v0.4 (technically challenging, limited time, save for future efforts)

**Beacon GA4GH** involvement [matrix](#) to be circulated, invite input by Friday (6th) ahead of the call with GA4GH leadership.

GA4GH activities to be a rolling agenda item - updates from those attending the calls.

**Develop plan for Beacon as an ELIXIR service:**

Build information for qualifications of tender; 2018 implementation study plan.

Eg. costs:

1. Hosting a Beacon
2. Network (under contract)
3. Potential efficiencies

CSC Cloud capacity set aside for ELIXIR Beacon service.

Both AAI and Beacon as potential ELIXIR Service. (WP5. Too early to action anything. Need an implementation.)

**All Hands Workshop**

- Slovenian Node have 15-20 min tutorial prepared
- WP2 - deliverable - involving FR, BE, ES,
- Arrange TC for those engaged
- Need to encourage new Nodes / Datasets / National Initiatives