



ActivityInfo

ActivityInfo R package updates

Starting shortly, please wait!

Presented by the ActivityInfo Team

All in one information management software for humanitarian and development operations.

- Track activities, outcomes
- Beneficiary management
- Surveys
- Work offline/online

The image shows the ActivityInfo website homepage on the left and a map visualization on the right. The website features a green header with the ActivityInfo logo, navigation links for Features, Pricing, Customers, Support, News, Contact us, and Log in. Below the header, there's a main heading 'Information management software for the social sector' followed by a description of the software's capabilities. A section titled 'ActivityInfo is perfect for' lists four categories: Case Management, Monitoring and Evaluation, Humanitarian coordination, and Cash & Voucher Assistance. At the bottom, a 'Our key features' section includes links for Mobile data collection, Data entry, Data management, and Analysis & visualization. To the right, a map of East Africa (Rwanda, Burundi, DRC) displays data points represented by colored circles of varying sizes, each containing a numerical value indicating activity counts or other metrics.

Outline

- What changed in the last year?
- Form manipulation and data download
- Grant-based roles
- Bulk update/deactivate/delete users



What changed in the last year?

What changed in the last year?

- Grant-based role support has been added
- New tutorials:
 - Working with grant-based roles
 - Advanced user management: bulk add and delete users
 - Advanced use-cases with roles

What changed in the last year?

- `getRecords()` is more robust
 - Column de-duplication
 - Handles cyclic references and has a `maxDepth` parameter
- New billing account functions to manage databases
- Improved credentials management: API tokens are now stored per ActivityInfo server

Up next in 2025

- Uploading attachments
- Support for ActivityInfo formulas in filter() and mutate() for prepared views on the server
- Column auto-completion and expansion into parent forms, sub-forms, reference forms, etc.
records %>% mutate(child_name = records\$child\$childName)

Installation and Authentication

Loading ActivityInfo and tidyverse

```
library(activityinfo)
```

```
library(tidyverse)
```

Or one can explicitly include specific tidyverse packages:

```
library(dplyr)
```

```
library(tidyr)
```

```
library(purrr)
```

Working with grant-based roles tutorial

Create a database

```
library(activityinfo)

# We can use these options to turn on and off debugging messages
# Useful for logging on servers
options(activityinfo.verbose.requests = FALSE) # http requests
options(activityinfo.verbose.tasks = FALSE) # responses to different tasks

newDb <- addDatabase(
  label =
    sprintf(
      "Demo database %s",
      as.POSIXlt(Sys.time(), "UTC", "%Y-%m-%dT%H:%M")
    )
)
databaseld <- newDb$databaseld
```



Create a form fields

```
formElements = list(  
  textFieldSchema(  
    label = "What is your name?",  
    code = "NAME",  
    description = "Please provide your full name",  
    required = TRUE  
)  
,  
  singleSelectFieldSchema(  
    label = "What is your sex?",  
    code = "SEX",  
    options = c("Female", "Male", "Prefer not to answer"),  
    required = TRUE  
)  
,  
  singleSelectFieldSchema(  
    label = "Are you pregnant",  
    relevanceRule = "SEX != 'Male'",  
    options = c("Yes", "No"),  
    required = TRUE  
)  
)
```



Add the form to the database

```
surveySchema <- formSchema(  
    databaseId = databaseId,  
    label = "My new survey",  
    element <- formElements  
)  
  
surveyForm <- addForm(surveySchema)
```

Create form with chaining |>

```
# Or we can split it up and use chaining to build and upload our form
optionalForm <-
  formSchema(databaseId = newDb$databaseId, label = "An optional form") |>
  addFormField(feedbackTextFieldSchema(label = "Anonymous feedback", code =
"feedback")) |>
  addForm()
```

Fetch database tree and system roles

The database metadata

```
dbTree <- getDatabaseTree(databaseId = newDb$databaseId)  
as_tibble(dbTree$ownerRef)
```

The roles as a table

```
roles <- getDatabaseRoles(dbTree)  
roles
```

Expand administrative permissions on the database

```
roles |>  
tidy::unnest_longer(permissions) |>  
tidy::unnest_wider(permissions) |>  
select(id, label, operation)
```

List role grants

A grant can be for a resource:

- Database,
- Folder, or
- Form.

The resourceId in these default roles is the databaseId.

```
roles |>  
  select(id, label, grants) |>  
  tidyverse::unnest_longer(grants) |>  
  tidyverse::unnest_wider(grants)
```



Expand grants and operations

```
roles |>  
  select(id, label, grants) |>  
  tidyr::unnest_longer(grants) |>  
  tidyr::unnest_wider(grants) |>  
  tidyr::unnest_longer(operations) |>  
  tidyr::unnest_wider(operations) |>  
  select(id, label, resourceId, operation)
```

Retrieve a single role

```
readOnlyRole <- Filter(function(x) x$id == "readonly", dbTree$roles)  
str(readOnlyRole)
```

Add users in bulk

Default role and load user data

```
defaultRoleId = "readonly" # Default role for all new users
users <- data.frame(
  name = paste0("Person ", 1:10),
  email = paste0("dickinson+person", 1:10, "@washnote.com"),
  stringsAsFactors = FALSE
)
```

Adding

```
for (i in seq_len(nrow(users))) {
  addDatabaseUser(databaseId = databaseId,
    email = users[i,"email"],
    name = users[i,"name"],
    roleId = defaultRoleId)
}
```



Inspect role assignments

```
dbUserRoles <- getDatabaseUsers(dbTree$dbbaseId) |> unnest_wider(role, names_sep  
= "_")  
dbUserRoles
```

Create Role 1: Deny permission to delete

This is a resource level permission that we will apply to our survey form:

```
dataEntryFormId <- surveySchema$id  
noDeletePermissions = resourcePermissions(  
  view = TRUE,  
  add_record = TRUE,  
  edit_record = TRUE,  
  delete_record = FALSE, # this prevents deletion  
  export_records = TRUE),  
  optional = FALSE  
)
```

Create role 1: Create and update role

```
dataEntryNoDeleteRole <- role(  
  id = "entrynodelete",  
  label = "Data entry without delete",  
  grants = list(  
    grant(  
      resourceId = dataEntryFormId,  
      permissions = noDeletePermissions # we created this  
    ))  
  updateRole(dbTree$dbbaseId, dataEntryNoDeleteRole)
```

Create role 2: Admin without automation

These permissions affect the whole database, not just resources.

```
dbPermissionWithoutAutomation <- databasePermissions(  
  manage_automations = FALSE, manage_users = TRUE, manage_roles = TRUE)  
adminRoleNoAutomation <- role(  
  id = "adminnoautomation", label = "Admin without automation",  
  permissions = dbPermissionWithoutAutomation, grants = dbAdminGrants)  
addRole(dbTree$dbbaseId, adminRoleNoAutomation)
```

Update Role with optional form access

```
optionalFormId <- optionalForm$id
optionalFormGrant <- grant(
  resourceId = optionalFormId,
  permissions = resourcePermissions(view = TRUE, add_record = TRUE, edit_record =
FALSE, delete_record = FALSE, export_records = FALSE),
  optional = TRUE # this makes the grant optional)
optionalAccessRole <- role(id = "optional", label = "Optional access to feedback from only",
  grants = list(optionalFormGrant)
)
updateRole(dbTree$dbbaseId, optionalAccessRole)
```



Create partner and reporting forms
and roles

Partner form

```
reportingForm <- formSchema(  
  databaseId = dbTree$databaseId,  
  label = "Partner reports") |>  
  addFormField(referenceFieldSchema(referencedFormId = partnerForm$id, code = "rp",  
  label = "Partner", required = TRUE)) |>  
  addFormField(textFieldSchema(label = "Report", required = TRUE))  
addForm(reportingForm)
```

Reporting form

```
partnerForm <- formSchema(  
  databaseId = dbTree$databaseId,  
  label = "Reporting Partners") |>  
  addFormField(textFieldSchema(code = "name", label = "Partner name", required =  
    TRUE))  
addForm(partnerForm)  
partnerTbl <- tibble(name = c("Partner A", "Partner B", "Partner C"))  
importRecords(partnerForm$id, data = partnerTbl)
```

Partner form

```
partnerTbl <- getRecords(partnerForm) |> collect()  
# Generate reports and import records using the partner ID to link to partners  
partnerReports <- paste0("This is a report from ", partnerTbl[["Partner name"]], ".")  
reportingTbl <- tibble(Partner = partnerTbl[["_id"]], Report = partnerReports)  
importRecords(reportingForm$id, data = reportingTbl)
```

Create a parameter and grant

We need a partner parameter so we know the user's organization to create a grant that limits access to only reports from one's own organization.

```
partnerParameter <- parameter(id = "partner", label = "Partner", range = partnerForm$id)
reportGrant <- grant(resourceld = reportingForm$id, permissions = resourcePermissions(
    view = sprintf("%s == @user.partner", partnerForm$id),
    edit_record = sprintf("%s == @user.partner", partnerForm$id), discover =
TRUE,export_records = TRUE))
```

Define reporting partner role

```
reportingPartnerRole <- role(id = "rp", label = "Reporting Partner",  
parameters = list(partnerParameter),  
grants = list(reportGrant,  
  grant(resourceld = dbTree$databaseld, permissions = resourcePermissions(view =  
TRUE))))  
addRole(dbTree$databaseld, reportingPartnerRole)
```

Add users with roles

```
partnerAId <- partnerTbl |> filter(`Partner name` == "Partner A") |> pull(`_id`)
addDatabaseUser(
  databaseId = dbTree$databaseId,
  email = "user.a@example.com",
  name = "User A",
  roleId = "rp",
  roleParameters = list(partner = partnerAId)
)
```

Getting records

Getting records

getRecords()

getRecords() is a user-friendly and tidyverse compatible replacement for queryTable()

Use collect() to download to a data frame.

the base pipe |> is available from R4.1.

Otherwise use the magrittr pipe %>%.

records_df <-

```
getRecords("ceam1x8kq6ikcujg") |>
  select(ends_with("Name")) |>
  collect()
```

records_df

```
# ActivityInfo tibble: Remote form: Projects (ceam1x8kq6ikcujg)
# A tibble: 134 x 5
   `Organization Name` `Sector Name` `Sub-sector Name` `Admin 1 Name` `Admin 2 Name`
   <chr>              <chr>          <chr>          <chr>          <chr>
 1 The Fred Hollows Foundation Health Basic Health Care Shan (South) Pa-O Self-Adminis...
 2 United Nations Childrens Fund Education Quality Basic Education/Formal Education Chin Falam
 3 American Refugee Committee Health Malaria Programme Tanintharyi Dawei
 4 Pact Global Microfinance Fund Livelihoods Microfinance Yangon Yangon (South)
 5 Pact Global Microfinance Fund Livelihoods Microfinance Sagaing Shwebo
 6 Karuna Mission Social solidarity Education Quality Basic Education/Formal Education Kayah Loikaw
 7 Proximity Designs Agriculture Irrigation Water Resources Chin Hakha
 8 Pact Global Microfinance Fund Livelihoods Microfinance Ayeyarwady Hinthada
 9 world Concern Myanmar Nutrition Monitoring Breast Milk Substitutes Kayin Hpa-An
10 Pact Global Microfinance Fund Livelihoods Microfinance Rakhine Thandwe
# i 124 more rows
# i Use `print(n = ...)` to see more rows
```

Columns as requested

Getting records

Manipulate the data frame as usual after collect()

```
records_df |>  
  filter(`Sub-sector  
Name`=="Nutrition") |>  
  arrange(`Organization Name`,  
 `Admin 1 Name`, `Admin 2 Name`)  
|>  
  slice_head(n=2)
```

```
# ActivityInfo tibble: Remote form: Projects (ceam1x8kq6ikcujg)  
# A tibble: 2 × 5  
  `Organization Name`    `Sector Name` `Sub-sector Name` `Admin 1 Name` `Admin 2 Name`  
  <chr>                 <chr>        <chr>           <chr>          <chr>  
1 Save the Children in Myanmar Nutrition IEC on Infant and ~ Rakhine      Sittwe  
2 World Concern Myanmar   Nutrition Monitoring Breast ~ Kayin            Hpa-An
```

Getting records

Filter large data sets *before* downloading

It is possible to use some filters and limit the records before they are downloaded (with `collect()`).

Taking away `collect()` results in a reference to the server instead of a data frame. information is displayed about the query being prepared.

```
getRecords("ceam1x8kq6ikcujg") |>
  select(ends_with("Name")) |>
  arrange(`Organization Name`) |>
  filter(`Sector Name`=="Nutrition") |>
  slice_head(n=2)
```

Adding filter: (c3g7i69kq6jst8k3z.caxmhjxkq6jqe373c == "Nutrition")				
# Form (id):	Projects (ceam1x8kq6ikcujg)	# Total form records:	134	
# Table fields types:	c(`Organization Name` = "Text", `Sector Name` = "Text", `Sub-sector Name` = "Text", `Admin 1 Name` = "Text", `Admin 2 Name` = "Text")	# Table filter:	(c3g7i69kq6jst8k3z.caxmhjxkq6jqe373c == "Nutrition")	# Table sort:
# Table Window:	offset: 0; limit: 2			
`Organization Name`	`Sector Name`	`Sub-sector Name`	`Admin 1 Name`	`Admin 2 Name`
<chr>	<chr>	<chr>	<chr>	<chr>
1 Save the Children in Myanmar	Nutrition	IEC on Infant and Child feeding	Rakhine	Sittwe
2 World Concern Myanmar	Nutrition	Nutrition Assessment with W/H	Shan (North)	Lashio

Limitations before collect()

Only `select()`, `filter()`, `arrange()`, `slice_head()`, and `slice_tail()` can be used before fetching records.

You must use the verbs in order: 1. `arrange()` (limited to a single column) and/or `dplyr::filter()` in any combination. 2. `slice_head()`, `slice_tail()` or `adjustWindow(x, offSet = 0L, limit)` in any combination 3. **Always end with `collect()`**

More columns/different styles

Columns from `getRecords()` are as in the web UI by default with the addition of record id columns but can be modified with helper functions and the `style` argument:

- `getRecords(x, style = prettyColumnStyle())` : the default style
- `minimalColumnStyle()` : removes all ID columns not found in the web UI.

Getting records

Adding reference columns

Using styles, it is possible to include more columns from referenced tables to include regional codes from *Admin 1* and *Admin 2*:

```
getRecords("ceam1x8kq6ikcujg",
  style =
prettyColumnStyle(allReferenceFields
= TRUE)) |>
  select(ends_with("Name"),
  ends_with("CODE")) |>
  arrange(`Organization Name`) |>
  filter(`Sector Name` == "Nutrition") |>
  slice_head(n = 2) |> collect()
```

```
# ActivityInfo tibble: Remote form: Projects (ceamlx8kq6ikcujg)
# A tibble: 2 x 7
#>   `Organization Name` `Sector Name` `Sub-sector Name` `Admin 1 Name` `Admin 2 Name` `Admin 1 P-CODE` `Admin 2 P-CODE`
#>   <chr>              <chr>          <chr>           <chr>          <chr>          <chr>          <chr>
#> 1 Save the Children in Myan~ Nutrition       IEC on Infant an- Rakhine        Sittwe      MMR012      MMR012D001
#> 2 World Concern Myanmar Nutrition       Nutrition Assess- Shan (North)    Lashio      MMR015      MMR015D001
```

Summary of getRecords()

- Use the record id or a form tree to getRecords() and then select() columns to select and rename them. Use column styles for fine control.
- Always end with collect() to continue analysis on a data frame.
- If you are managing very large data sets and want to reduce download time, use filter() before collect().

Manipulating an existing ActivityInfo forms

Manipulate existing elements and upload form

```
fmSchema <- getFormSchema(surveySchema$id)
fmSchema$elements <- fmSchema$elements[c(1,3,2)]
fmSchema |>
  deleteFormField(code = "age")
addForm(fmSchema)
```

Using getRecords() to copy form fields to a new form

```
getRecords(surveyForm) |>  
  extractSchemaFromFields(  
    databaseId, "Copied form", useColumnNames = TRUE  
  ) |>  
  addForm()
```

Questions?

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