

Building Forms Using Widgets Exercise

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Outline

In this exercise, we will design a user interface for entering, displaying, and modifying Project details. This will be achieved by incorporating specific widgets into the form, aligning each with the attributes of the Project Entity.

Upon completing this exercise, you can preview the application in a web browser, ensuring that all relevant information is readily accessible to users.

Scenario

In this exercise, you will enhance the existing **Employee Directory** app, which consists of a single module containing essential entities, screens, and aggregates established in previous activities.

The module comprises six distinct screens, which have some Aggregates defined.

The ProjectDetails Screen has the **GetProject** Aggregate, which inputs and retrieves project data from the database.

Building upon this application, the focus of this exercise is to design a form within the ProjectDetails Screen to manually create an input widget for each attribute associated with a project.

Upon completing this exercise, the ProjectDetails Screen should mirror the visual representation depicted in the accompanying screenshot.

[EmployeeDirectory](#)[EmployeeDashboard](#)[ProjectDashboard](#)[Department](#)

Add Project Details

Name *

Description

Due Date *



Priority *



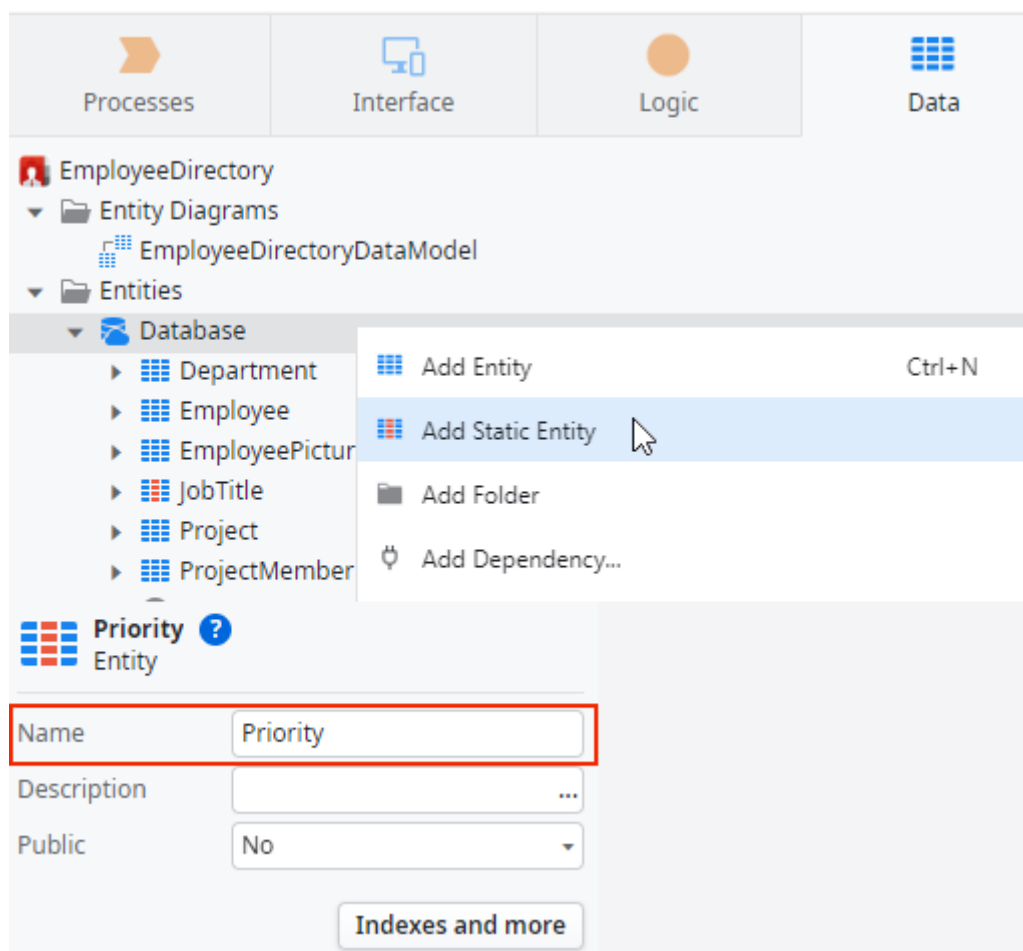
How-To

This section will show you how to do this exercise with a thorough step-by-step description. **If you already finished the exercise on your own, great! You don't need to do it again.** If you didn't complete the exercise, that's fine! We are here to help you.

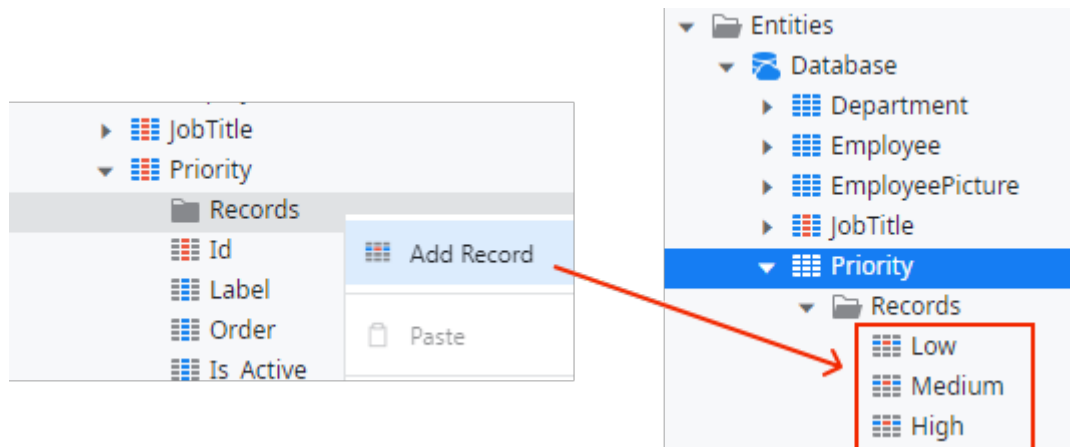
Create Static Entity

Assigning a unique priority level to each project based on its significance is essential for determining the project's completion due date. In this section, we will create a Priority Static Entity to hold priority records, subsequently we will link them to the corresponding Project Entity.

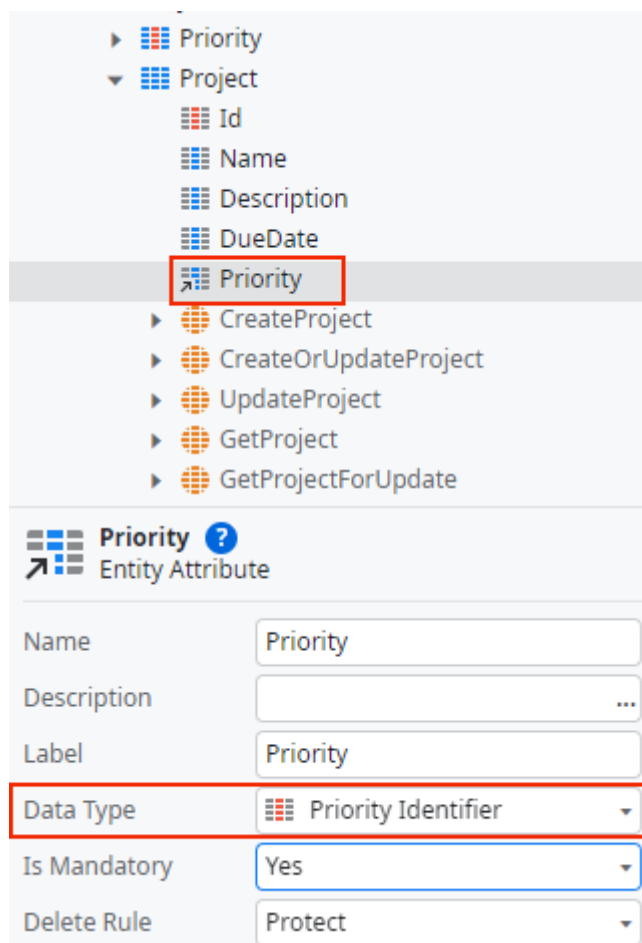
- 1) In the Data tab, add a Static Entity and name it *Priority*.



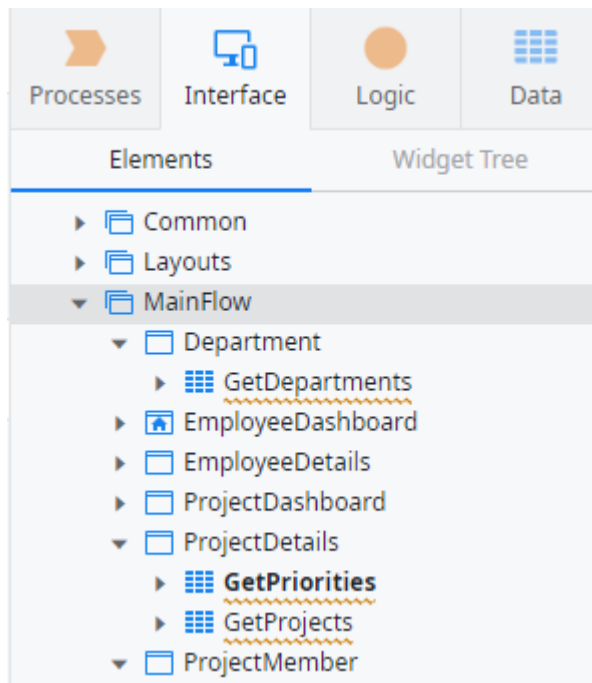
- 2) Populate it with the necessary records, as shown in the provided screenshot.



- 3) Add a attribute to the **Project** Entity, name it *Priority*, and set its Data Type as a *Priority Identifier*, making it a foreign key. Set Is Mandatory to Yes.



- 4) Create the *GetPriorities* Aggregate to the ProjectDetails Screen.



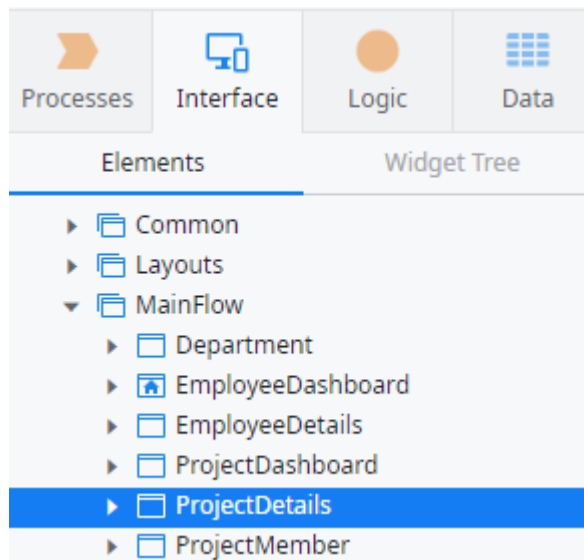
- 5) Publish the module to the server to save the latest changes.



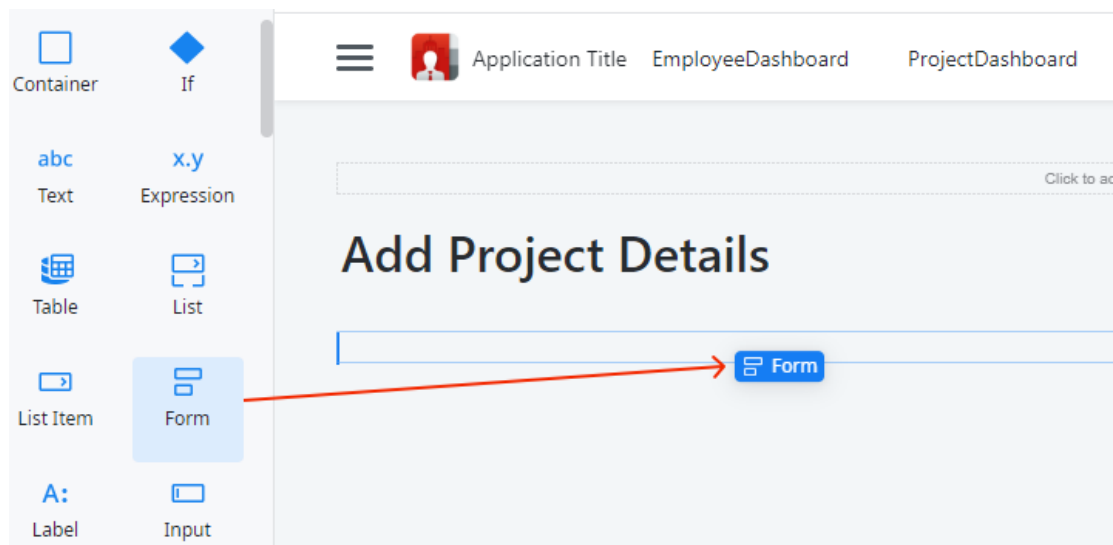
Create a Form Using Widgets

In this segment, we will construct the ProjectDetails Screen by incorporating various widgets, including Forms, Labels, Input fields, Dropdowns. Follow these steps to implement the desired interface on the ProjectDetails Screen:

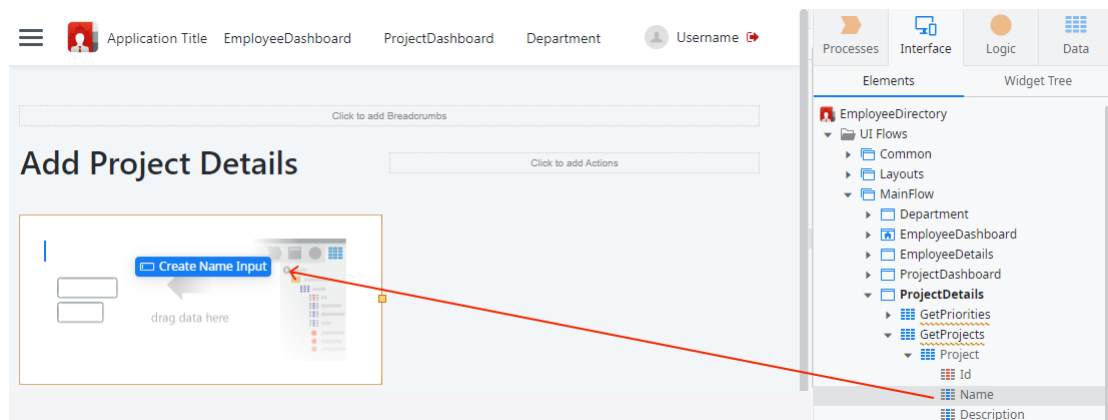
- 1) Open the **ProjectDetails** Screen by double-clicking on it.



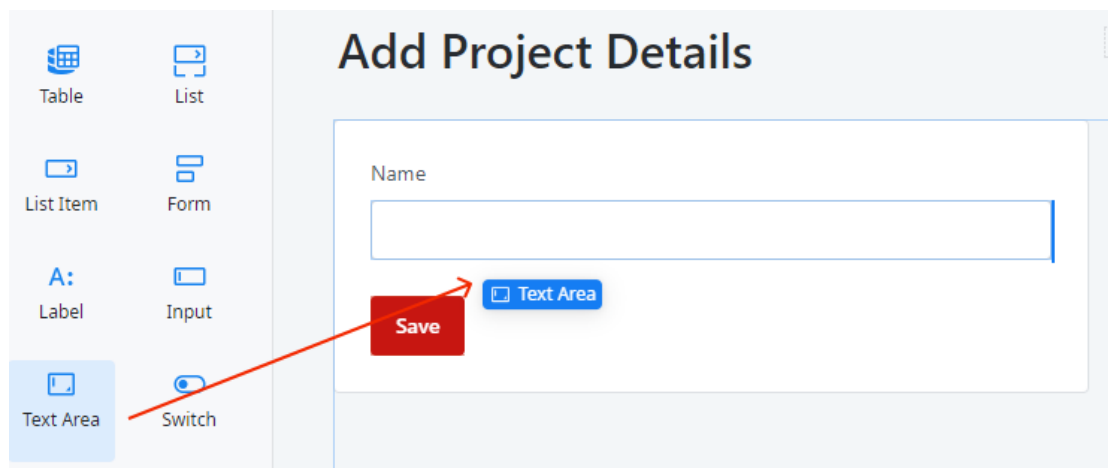
- 2) Insert a **Form** into the Container on the left in the **MainContent** area by dragging and dropping it.



- 3) Within the ProjectDetails Screen, expand the **GetProjects** Aggregate and, under the Project Entity, drag the **Name** attribute onto the Form.

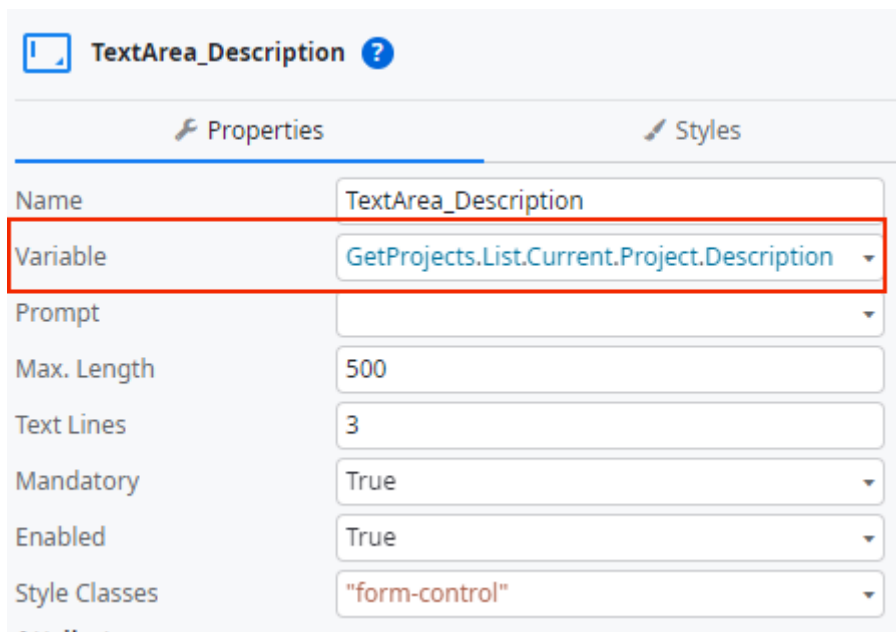


- 4) Add a **Text Area** widget between the Name input and the Save button.



- 5) In the **Properties** section, rename `TextArea1` to `TextArea_Description`.

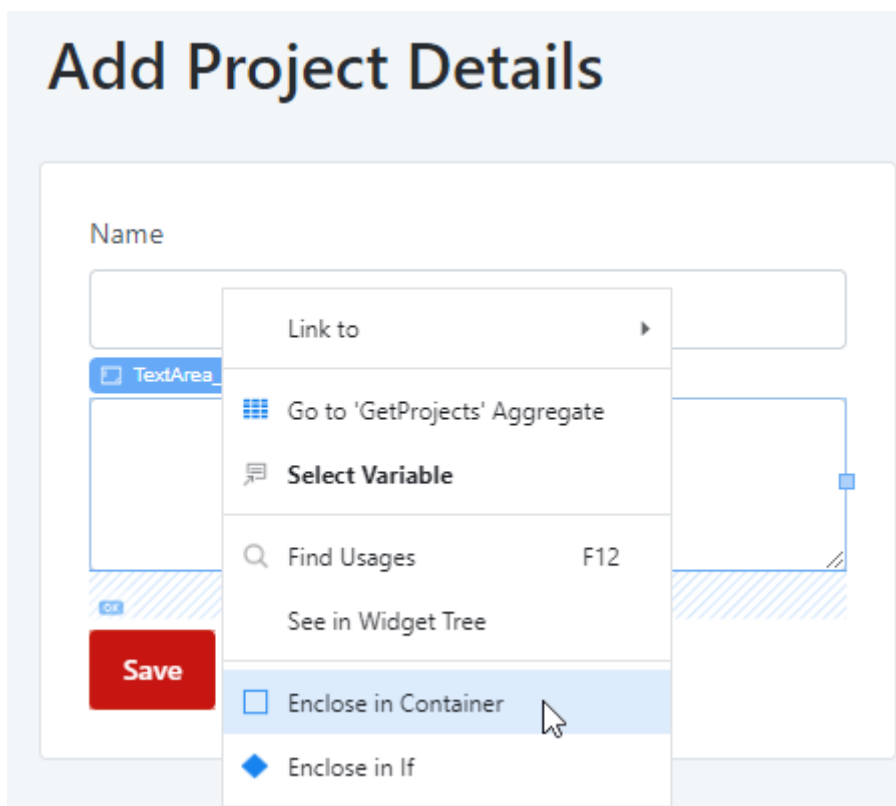
- 6) Double-click the **Variable** property of the Text Area and set its value to `GetProjects.List.Current.Project.Description`.



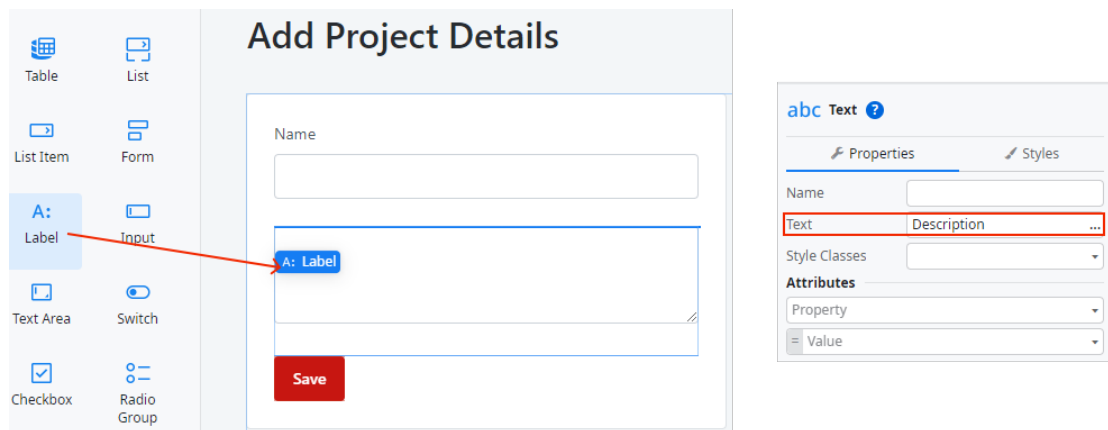
The screenshot shows the 'Properties' tab of the 'TextArea_Description' widget. The 'Variable' property is highlighted with a red rectangle and set to 'GetProjects.List.Current.Project.Description'. Other properties include 'Name' (TextArea_Description), 'Prompt' (empty), 'Max. Length' (500), 'Text Lines' (3), 'Mandatory' (True), 'Enabled' (True), and 'Style Classes' ('form-control').

Property	Value
Name	TextArea_Description
Variable	GetProjects.List.Current.Project.Description
Prompt	
Max. Length	500
Text Lines	3
Mandatory	True
Enabled	True
Style Classes	"form-control"

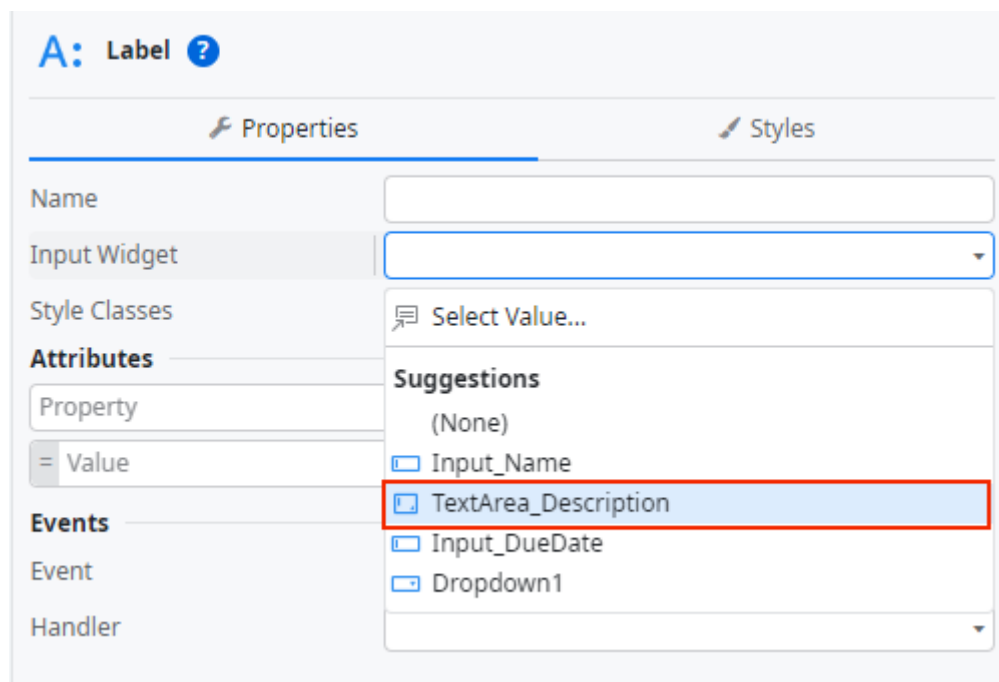
- 7) Right-click on the Text Area and opt for **Enclose in Container**.



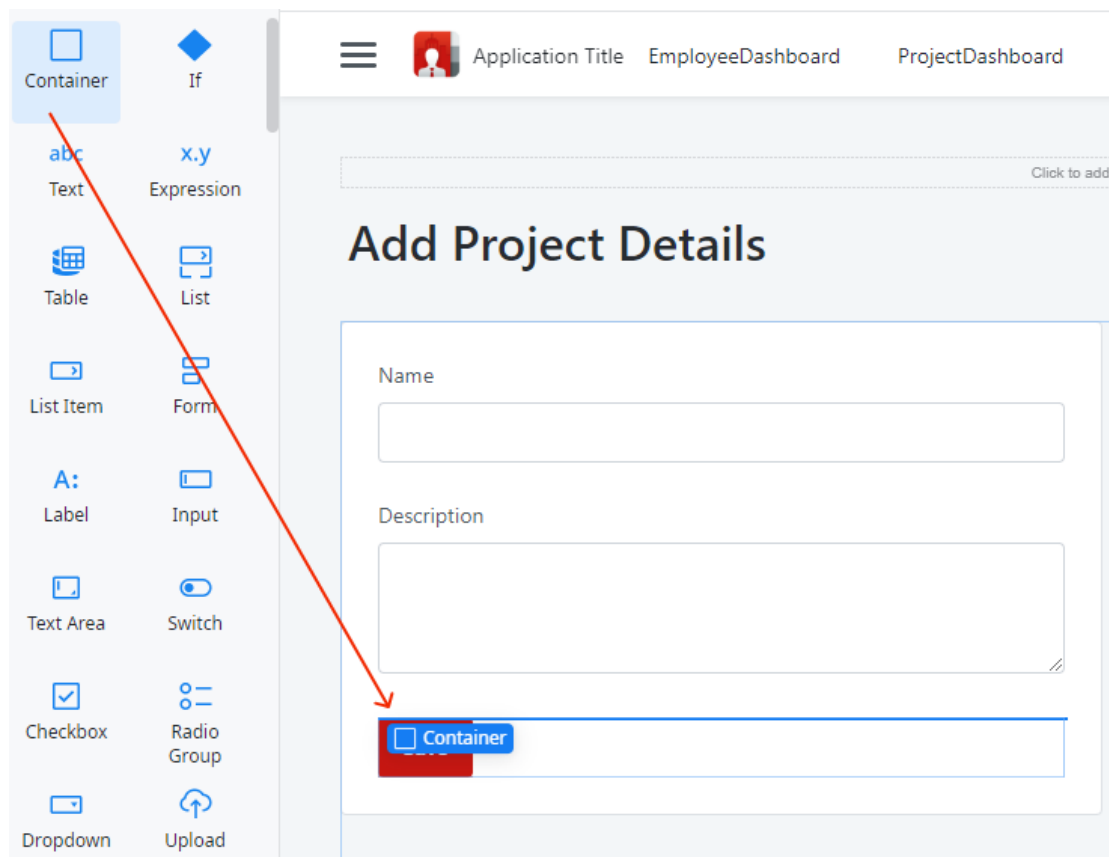
- 8) Place a **Label** widget before the Text Area within the new container and label it as *Description*.



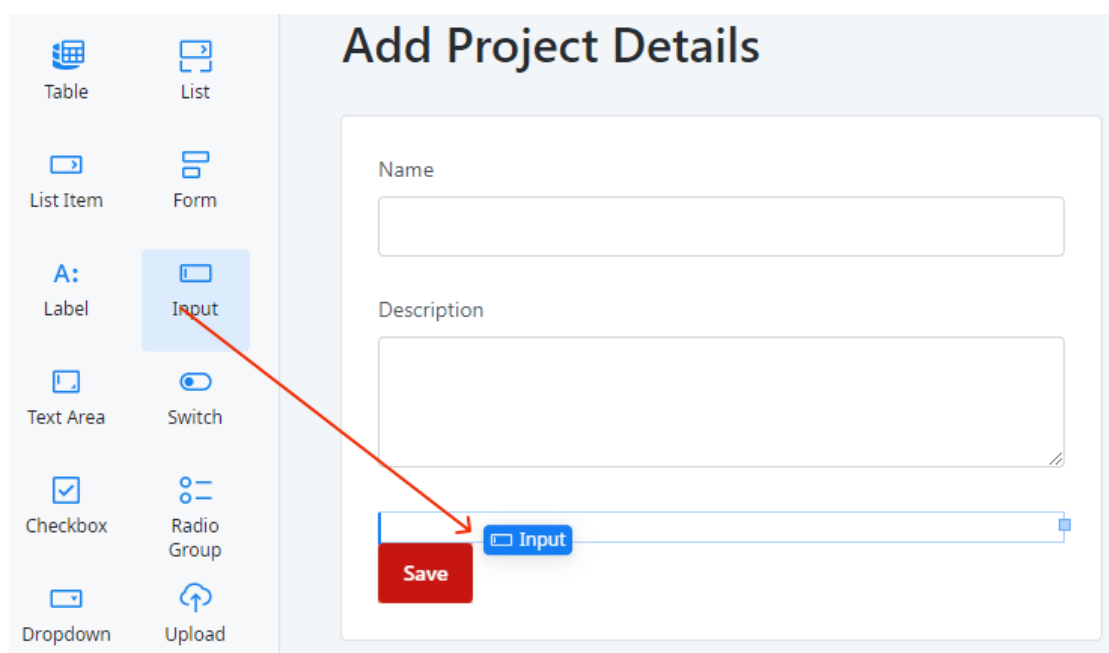
- 9) Associate the Label with the Text Area by setting the **Input Widget** property to *TextArea_Description*.



- 10) Add another **Container** below the one comprising the Description label and input but preceding the Save button.

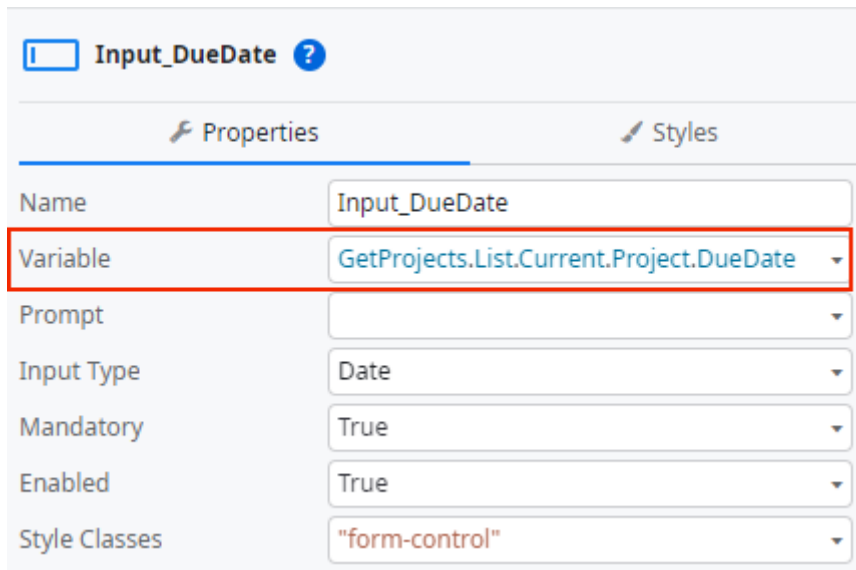


- 11) Drop an **Input** widget into the newly created container.



- 12) Rename the widget to *Input_DueDate*

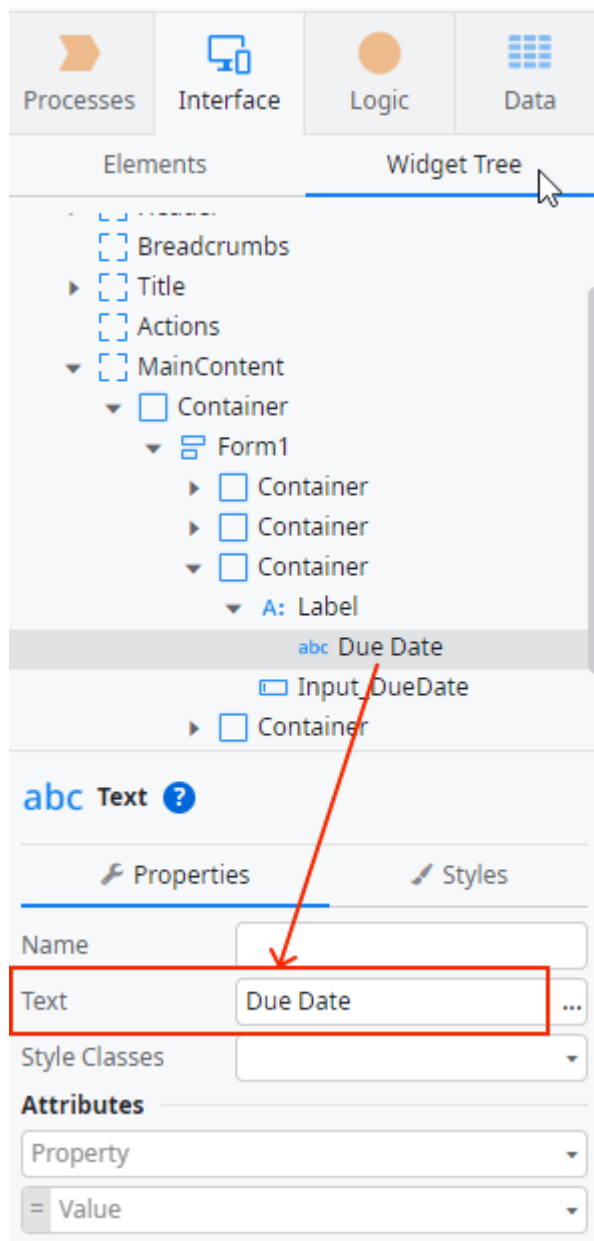
- 13) Set the **Variable** property of the Input widget to `GetProjects.List.Current.Project.DueDate`.



The screenshot shows the 'Properties' tab of the OutSystems Properties Panel for a widget named 'Input_DueDate'. The 'Variable' property is highlighted with a red rectangle and is set to 'GetProjects.List.Current.Project.DueDate'. Other properties include 'Name' (Input_DueDate), 'Prompt' (empty), 'Input Type' (Date), 'Mandatory' (True), 'Enabled' (True), and 'Style Classes' ('form-control').

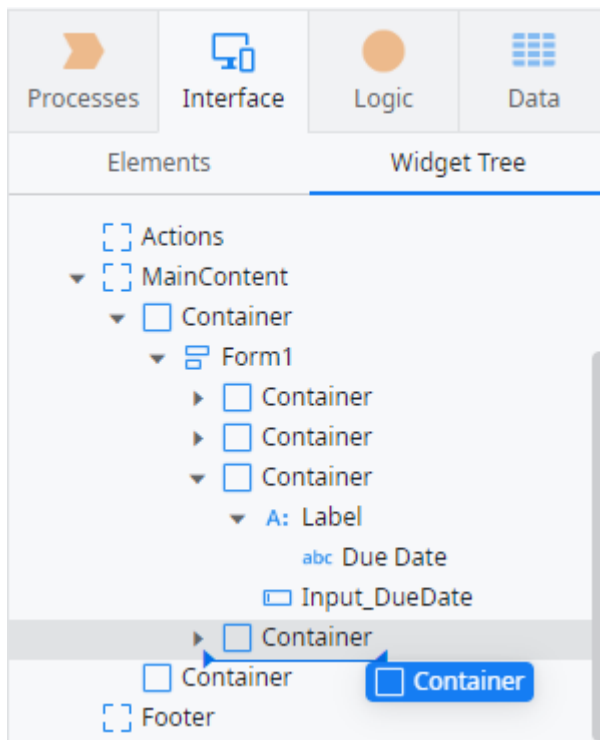
Properties	
Name	Input_DueDate
Variable	GetProjects.List.Current.Project.DueDate
Prompt	
Input Type	Date
Mandatory	True
Enabled	True
Style Classes	"form-control"

- 14) Similar to the Description, insert a new Label just before the Input widget within the Container, labeling it as *Due Date*.

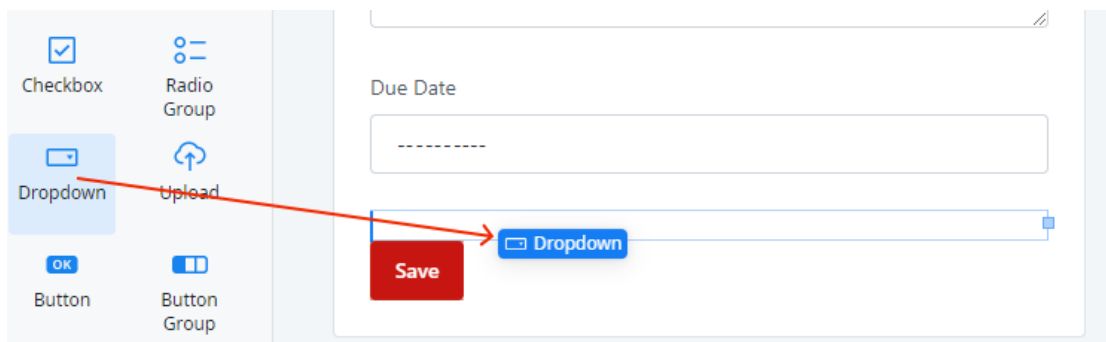


- 15) Set its Input Widget property to *Input_DueDate*.

- 16) Add a final Container between the container surrounding the Due Date input field and label, but before the Save button.



- 17) Place a **Dropdown** widget inside the new container.



- 18) In the Dropdown, we want to select the **Priority** of the project. For that, the Dropdown must list all the priorities. Since the Priority attribute is of type Priority Identifier, the value chosen by the user must have the same data type. set the following properties accordingly:

- **Variable:** `GetProjects.List.Current.Project.Priority`
- **List:** `GetPriorities.List`
- **Options Text:** `Priority.Label`

- **Options Value:** `Priority.Id`

Dropdown1 ?

Properties Styles

Name	Dropdown1
Variable	GetProjects.List.Current.Project.Priority
List	GetPriorities.List
Options Content	Text Only
Options Text	Priority.Label
Options Value	Priority.Id
Mandatory	True
Enabled	True
Empty Text	
Style Classes	"dropdown"

- 19) Just like we did for the Description and Due Date, define a **Label** for the Dropdown, name it *Priority*, and set its Input Widget property to *Dropdown1*.

20) Set the **On Click** property of the Save button to the **Current screen**.

The screenshot shows the 'Button' widget configuration panel. The 'Properties' tab is active. The 'On Click' event is highlighted with a red box, showing a dropdown menu with '(Current Screen)' selected. Other properties include Name, Confirmation, Enabled (True), Is Form Default (Yes), Visible (True), and Style Classes ('btn btn-primary').

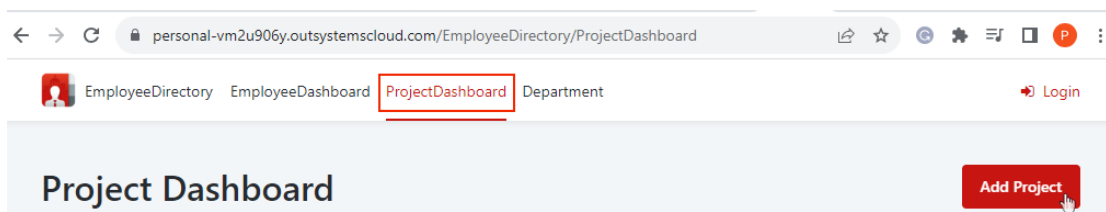
21) Publish the module to the server to save the latest changes.



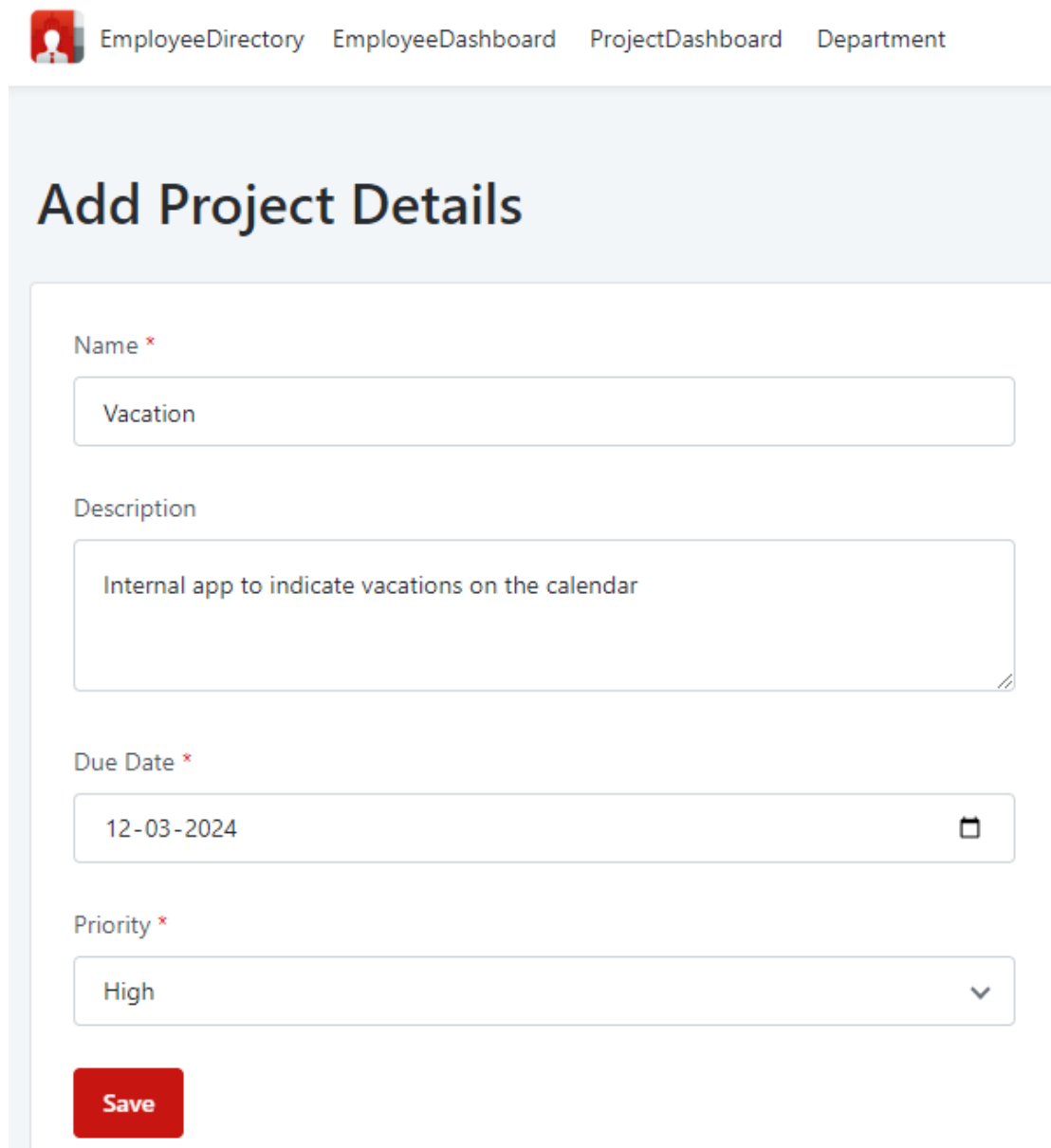
22) Open the application in the browser and navigate to the **ProjectDashboard** Screen through the app menu.



23) Click the **Add Project** button to transition to the ProjectDetails Screen.



- 24) Observe the newly added widgets in this section. As you can see, the form fetches and displays the first record within the Project Entity.



The screenshot shows a web application interface with a navigation bar at the top containing a user icon and links to EmployeeDirectory, EmployeeDashboard, ProjectDashboard, and Department. The main content area is titled 'Add Project Details' and contains a form with the following fields:

- Name ***: A text input field containing the value 'Vacation'.
- Description**: A text area containing the value 'Internal app to indicate vacations on the calendar'.
- Due Date ***: A date picker field showing '12-03-2024' with a calendar icon on the right.
- Priority ***: A dropdown menu with 'High' selected and a downward arrow on the right.

At the bottom of the form is a red 'Save' button.

In the Logic lesson, we will explore the process of presenting an empty form upon launching the screen to input and save new project data into the database.

Congratulations on the successful creation of input widgets in the form that efficiently inputs and presents the retrieved data from the database.