FLOWX.AI

BUILDING BLOCKS / Actions / start-subprocess-action

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BUILDING BLOCKS / Actions / Start Subprocess action

> **INFO**
>
> **What is it?** A **Start Subprocess action** is an
>
> The fallback content to display on prerendering
> that allows you to start a
> The fallback content to display on prerendering
> from another (parent)
> The fallback content to display on prerendering
> .
>
> **Why is it important?** Using **subprocesses** is a good way to split the complexity of your business flow into multiple, simple and reusable processes.

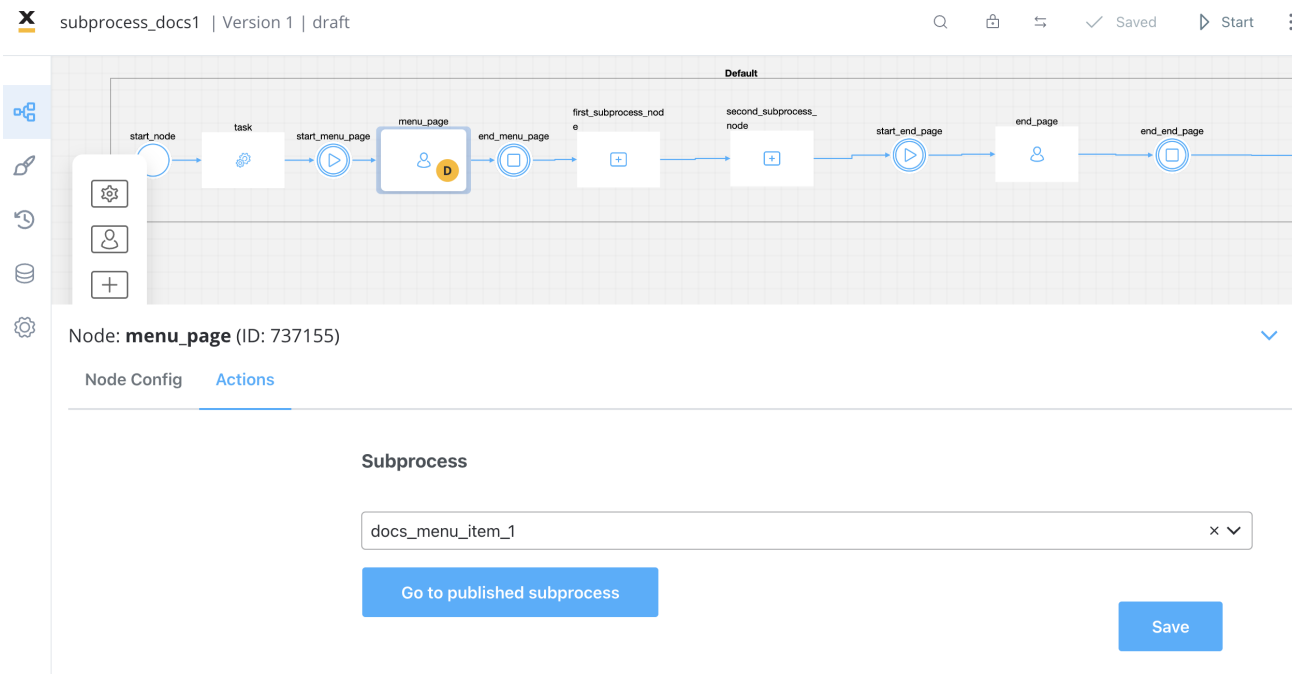
Configuring a Start Subprocess action

To use a process as a subprocess, you must first create it. Once the subprocess is created, you can start it from another (parent) process. To do this, you will need to add a **Start Subprocess** action to a **User task** node in the parent process or by using a subprocess run node.

Here are the steps to start a subprocess from a parent process:

1. First, create a process designed to be used as a subprocess.
2. In the parent process, create a **User task** node where you want to start the subprocess created at step 1.
3. Add a **Start Subprocess** action to the Task Node.
4. Configure the **Start Subprocess** action and from the dropdown list choose the subprocess created at step 1.

By following these steps, you can start a subprocess from a parent process and control its execution based on your specific use case.



The following properties must be configured for a **Start subprocess** action:

- Action Edit
- Back in steps (for Manual actions)
- Parameters
- Data to send (for Manual actions)

Action Edit

- **Name** - used internally to make a distinction between different actions on nodes in the process. We recommend defining an action naming standard to be able to quickly find the process actions
- **Order** - if multiple actions are defined on the same node, the running order should be set using this option
- **Timer expression** - it can be used if a delay is required on that action. The format used for this is ISO 8601 duration format (for example, a delay of 30

seconds will be set up as `PT30S`)

- **Action type** - should be set to **Start Subprocess**
- **Trigger type** (options are Automatic/Manual) - choose if this action should be triggered automatically (when the process flow reaches this step) or manually (triggered by the user); in most use cases, this will be set to automatic
- **Required type** (options are Mandatory/Optional) - automatic actions can only be defined as mandatory. Manual actions can be defined as mandatory or optional.
- **Repeatable** - should be checked if the action can be triggered multiple times
- **Autorun Children** - when this is switched on, the child actions (the ones defined as mandatory and automatic) will run immediately after the execution of the parent action is finalized

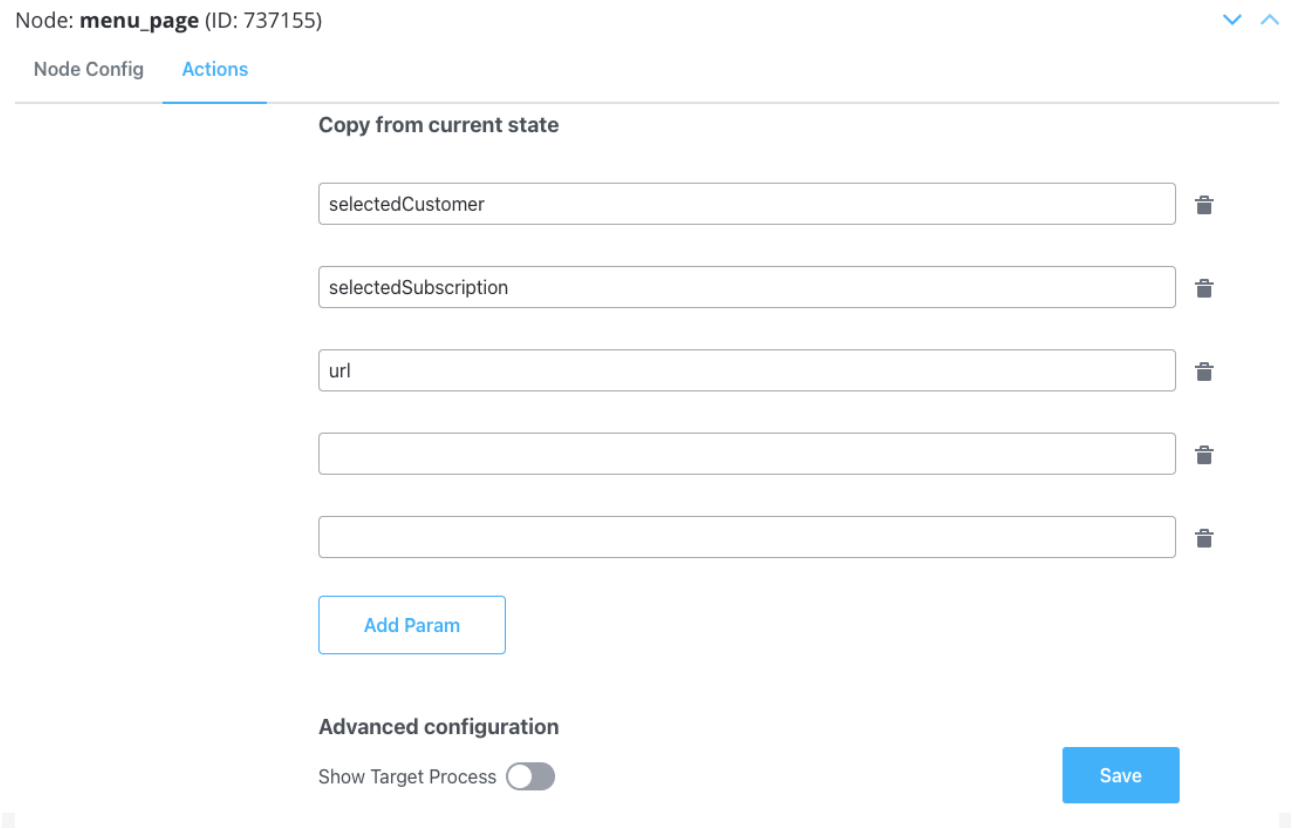
Back in steps

- **Allow BACK on this action** - back in process is a functionality that allows you to go back in a business process and redo a series of previous actions in the process. For more details, check **Moving a token backwards in a process** section.

Parameters

- **Subprocess** - the name of the process that you want to start as a subprocess
- **Exclude from current state** - what fields do you want to exclude when copying the data from the parent process to the subprocess (by default all data fields are copied)
- **Copy from current state** - if a value is set here, it will overwrite the default behavior (of copying the whole data from the subprocess) with copying just

the data that is specified (based on keys)



Advanced configuration

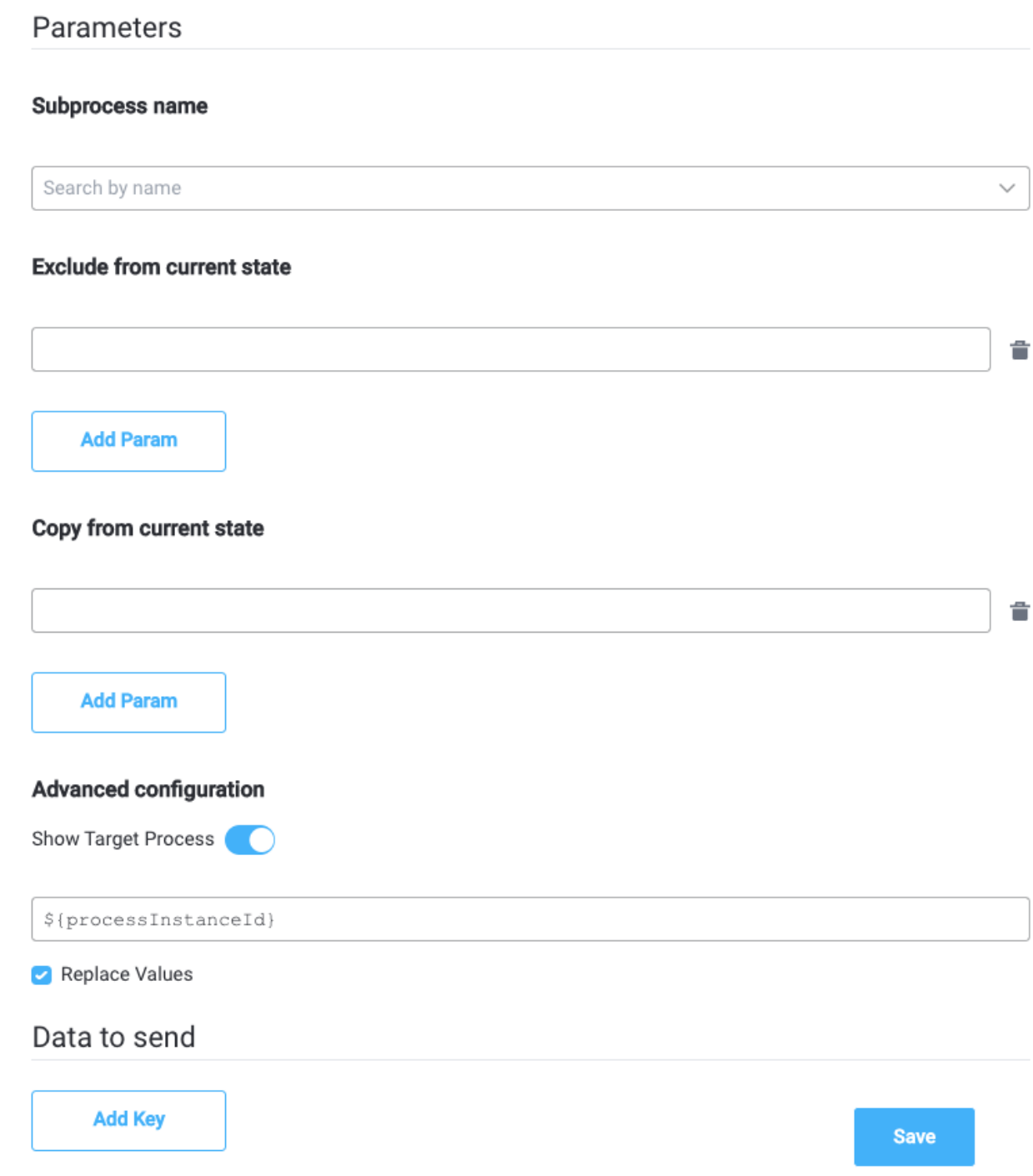
- **Show Target Process** - ID of the current process, to allow the subprocess to communicate with the parent process (which is the process where this action is configured)

Data to send

- **Keys** - are used when data is sent from the frontend via an action to validate the data (you can find more information in the **User Task configuration** section)

DANGER

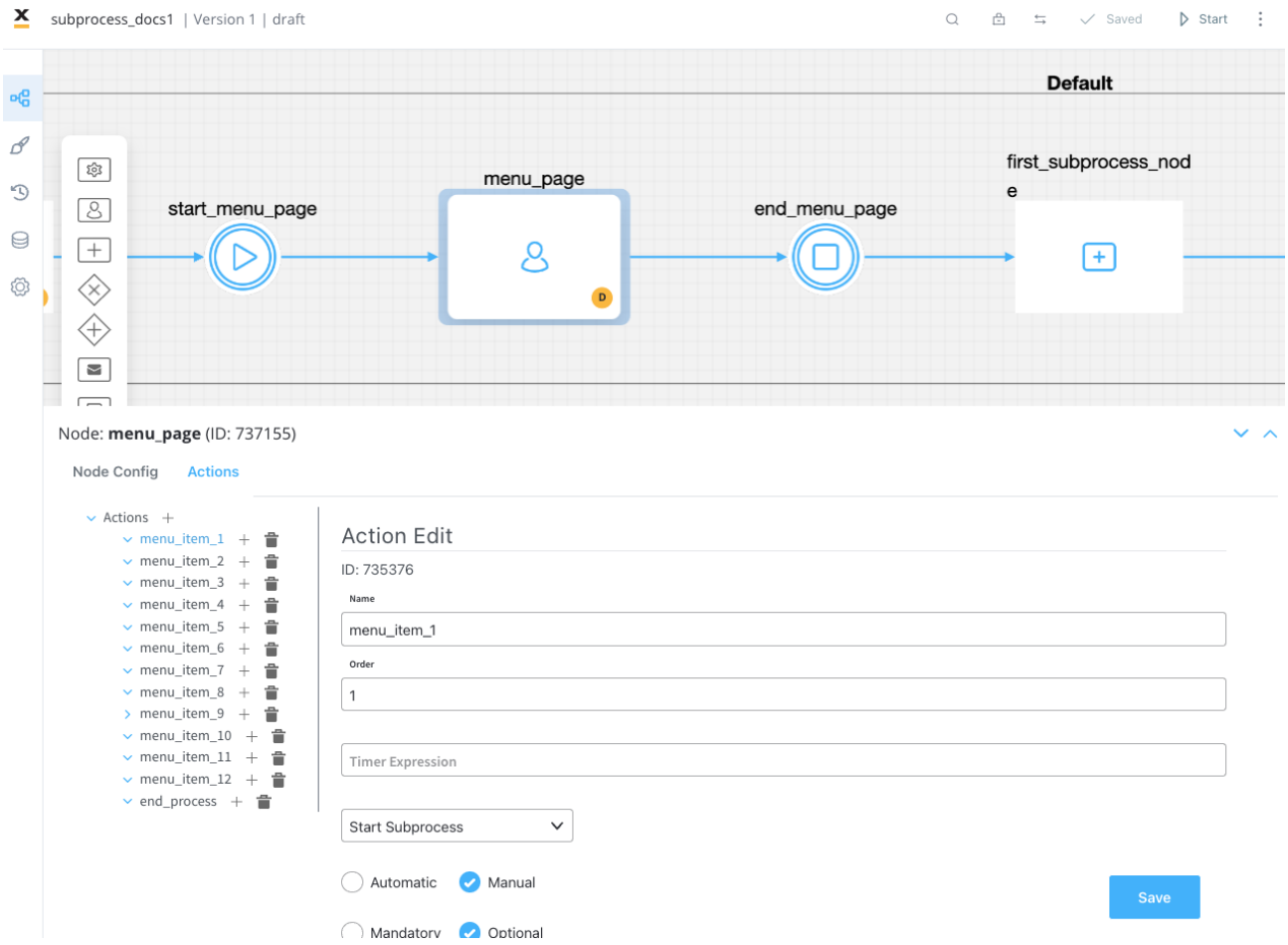
Data to send option is configurable only when the action **trigger type** is **Manual**.


Parameters
Subprocess name
Search by name
Exclude from current state
Add Param
Copy from current state
Add Param
Advanced configuration
Show Target Process
${processInstanceId}
Replace Values
Data to send
Add Key
Save

Example

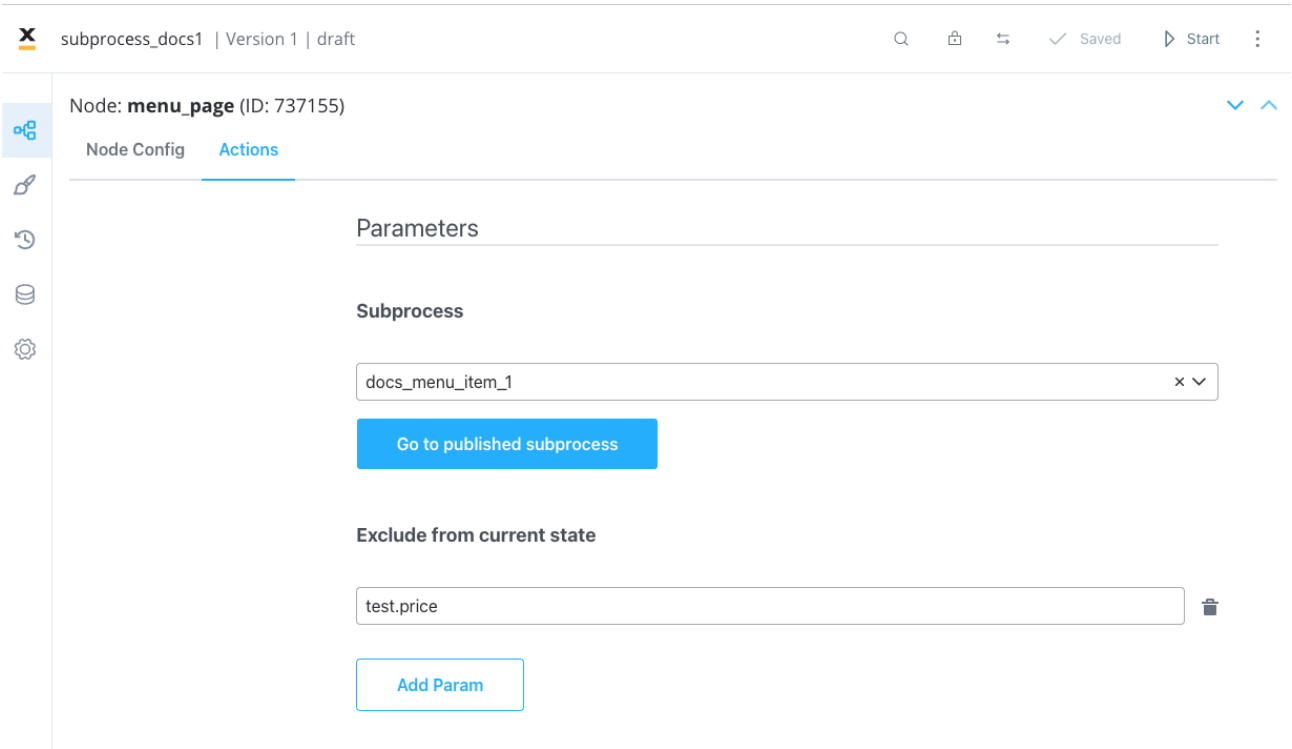
Let's create a main

The fallback content to display on prerendering
, in this process we will add a user task node that will represent a menu page. In this newly added node we will add multiple subprocess actions that will represent menu items. When you select a menu item, a subprocess will run representing that particular menu item.

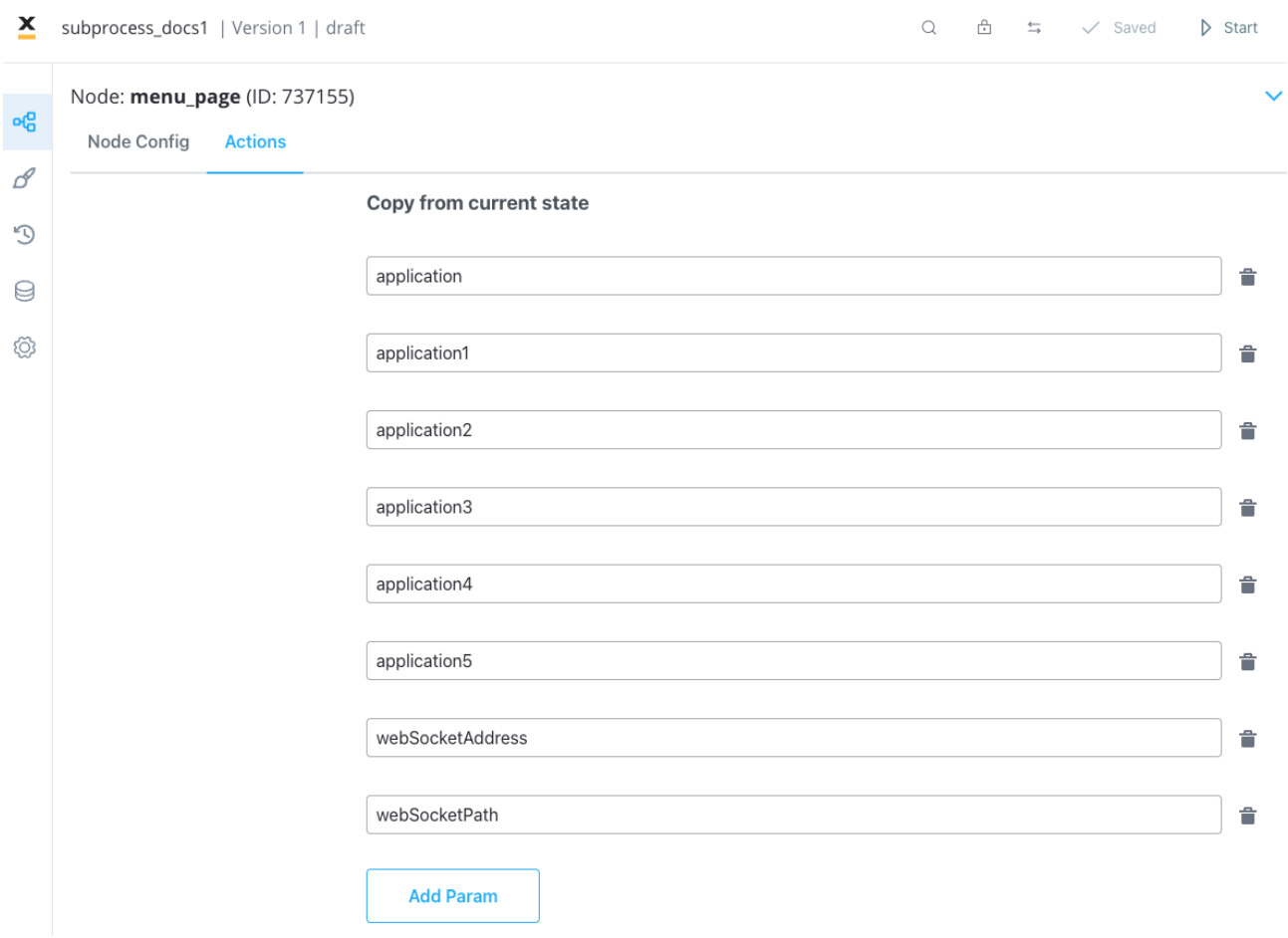


To start a subprocess, we can, for example, create the following minimum configuration in a user task node (now we configure the process where we want to start a subprocess):

- **Action** - `menu_item_1` - used internally to make a distinction between different actions on nodes in the process. We recommend defining an action naming standard to be able to quickly find the process actions
- **Trigger type** - Manual; Optional
- **Repeatable** - yes
- **Subprocess** - `docs_menu_item_1` - the name of the process that you want to start as a subprocess



- **Exclude from current state** - `test.price` - copy all the data from the parent, except the price data
- **Copy from current state** - leave this field empty in order to copy all the data (except the keys that are specified in the **Exclude from current state** field), if not, add the keys from which you wish to copy the data

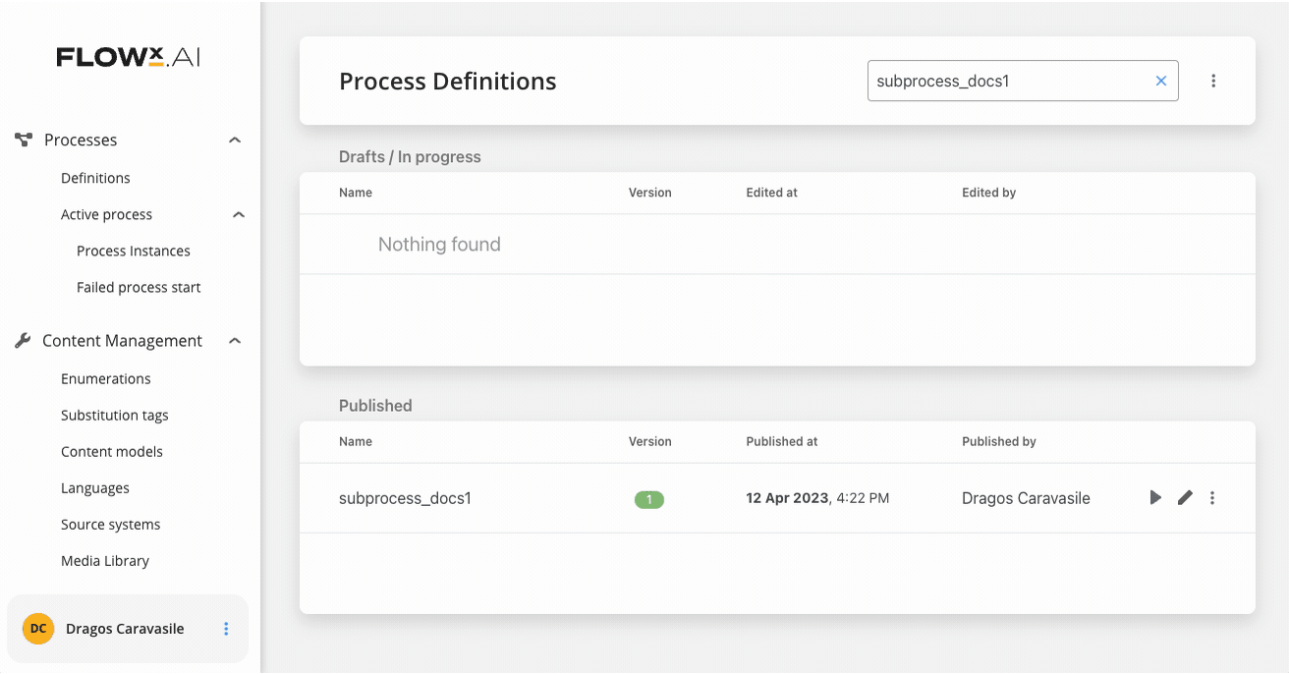


> **CAUTION**
>
> When copying from the current state using a subprocess, it is mandatory to specify the `webSocketAddress` and `webSocketPath` as parameters. This ensures that the Engine can accurately transmit the relevant information to the frontend, enabling it to display the appropriate UI.

Advanced configuration

- **Target process (parentProcessInstanceId)** - `${processInstanceId}` - current process ID

Result



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