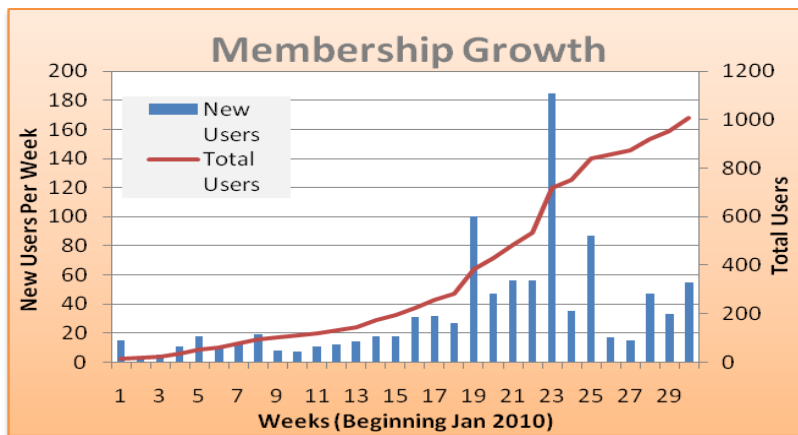


Celebrating 1000 Members!

During the final week of July InfoSpring membership passed the 1000 mark. We are delighted to have reached this milestone in just seven months. This is testament to enthusiasm for knowledge sharing among development practitioners, and their desire to help peers find practical solutions to real development challenges.

The graph below illustrates the community's growth rate since it was launched in January. Growth has been picking up steadily over recent months as new users join the site from around the world. We hope to keep this trend going.



To provide a more detailed picture, here is a snapshot of some of the other metrics we have been monitoring:

- The 1000 members are from 79 countries
- 64% of all members are from the global South
- Over 300 questions have been asked, with 94% being answered

An Exciting New Collaboration

We would like to highlight an exciting new initiative in the development community, the Global Master's in Development Practice (MDP) program. The John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation have funded 20 universities worldwide to create masters degrees focused on the practice of inter-disciplinary development.

In recent months the Forum has been exploring ways in which to collaborate with the MDP Secretariat, based at the Earth Institute, Columbia University. We fully support the push for more inter-disciplinary training for development practitioners and see it vital to the industry and something that fits well with the ethos of the Forum.

Final Survey Plea!

We would like to thank all the InfoSpring members who have taken the time to complete our survey. The information collected will help us evaluate the community and improve the site moving forward.

The survey will be open until Wednesday August 4th. We ask any members who have not completed the survey to [click here](#), or visit InfoSpring.

Introducing Advocate Lara Sukhtian:

During August Lara will be representing the Forum as an InfoSpring Advocate and helping us build the community in Jordan. Click [here](#) to visit her profile.



Nairobi Event Report

As InfoSpring grows, the Development Practitioners Forum is actively seeking direct feedback from users, and input on how InfoSpring should be developed. The InfoSpring survey is one way that we have reached out to members. Another more personal way that the Forum has engaged members is through the InfoSpring Reception held this month in Nairobi hosted by President Tony Barclay to discuss the future of InfoSpring.

Approximately 50 guests attended representing development practitioners from a number of cross-cutting fields. During the reception members discussed InfoSpring and how it can better serve the development community. Recommendations centered on quality assurance of information exchange, formulation of development friendly policies, use of technical language and user friendliness of the site and it's tools. The Forum was delighted to have such positive and constructive feedback and will use the information to better inform InfoSpring members as well as help make InfoSpring a stronger tool for practitioners.

Below are some of the questions that were asked by members during the reception. To see answers to these questions and others go to the Forum webpage by clicking [here](#).

Nairobi Reception Questions

- How does the InfoSpring team in Washington DC control for the quality of information in the Q&A platform?
- How can language barriers be overcome?
- Are there plans to reach out to more practitioners particularly in the rural areas of Kenya?
- How long does it take for a question to be answered on the Infospring website

To learn more about the mission, activities and partners of the Development Practitioners Forum, please visit our main [website](#).



Tony Barclay
Founder and president



HOT QUESTIONS ON INFOSPRING

Below are some questions that need answers or have sparked interesting discussions – please feel free to jump in!

From Kenya:

[How many tons of gum can an acre of Accacia Senegal generate upon maturity?](#)

From the UK:

[Do pilot projects lead to broader scale change?](#)

From India:

[Do you think that the energy audit agencies in India will help reduce carbon foot prints?](#)

Click below to join our
[Facebook](#) page:



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