

# Challenges for setting up an Association for Geographic Information in Malta

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Malta Association for Geographic Information

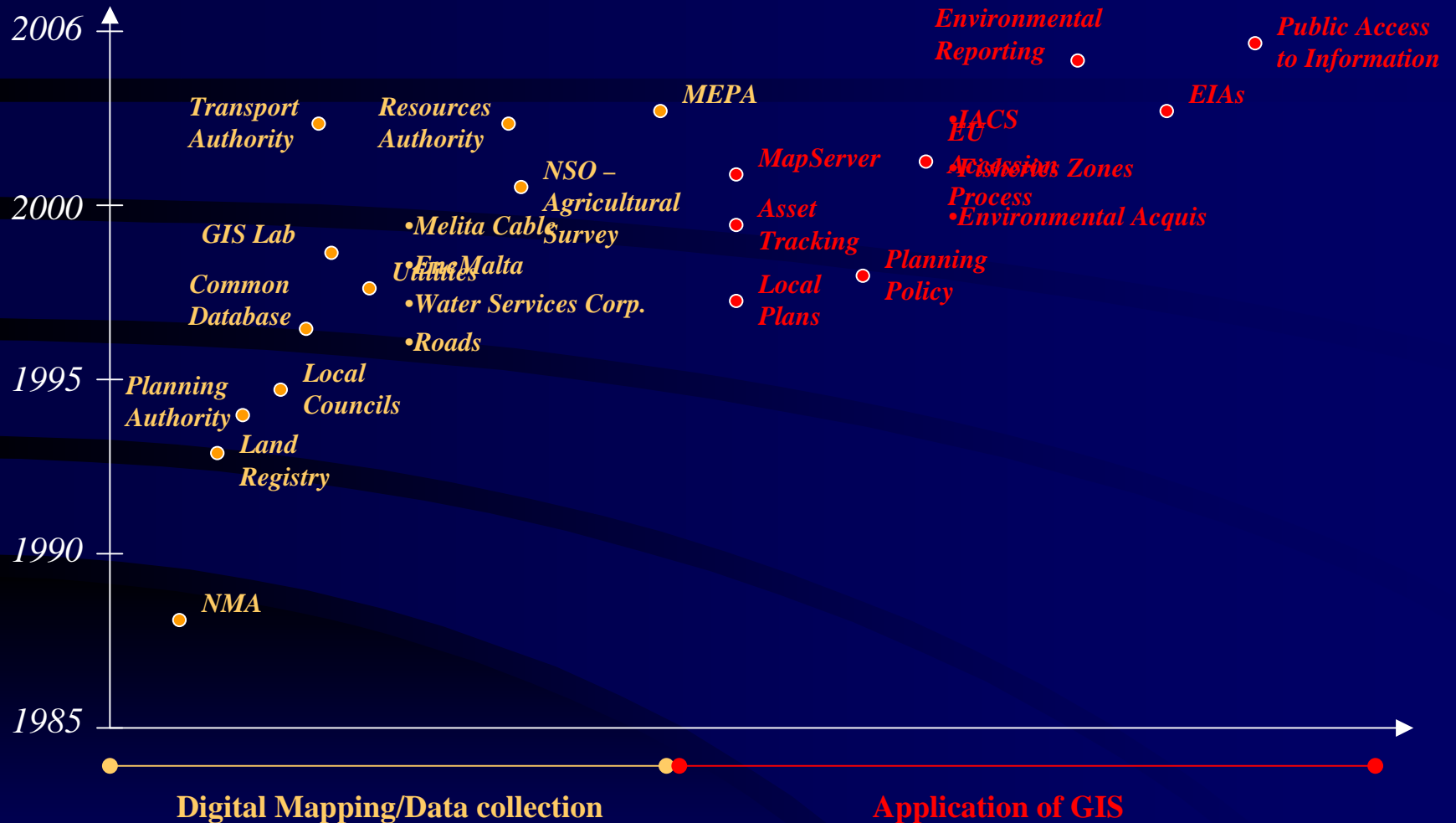


# The Importance of Spatial

- Location is important
  - Everything that happens, happens somewhere
- Spatial is special
  - 80% of information has a spatial element
- Affects a variety of disciplines
  - Physical, Economic, Social, Environmental, Civil, Health, etc



# GIS: A Maltese Time Line



# MAGI: Malta Association for Geographic Information

## Why have an association?

- Create a forum where the wide multidisciplinary GI communities can exchange and disseminate information, and raise awareness of the value of geographic information.

# The Stakeholders

- A national association brings together all the potential players of the GI sector:
  - Private Sector
  - Public Sector
  - Suppliers of GI services
  - Users of GI services
  - Academic and research sector

# Action taken to Create MAGI

- Series of meetings held: 2003
  - Review of potential interested parties: key players, stakeholders
- Working groups (WG) set-up: 2004
  - Identify association roles
  - Draft statute
  - Membership issues
- MAGI Setup: 2005
  - Committee Election
  - Statute Approval
- Next Step: 2007
  - Formally launch MAGI through a national activity

# Response – Organisations, Individuals & Sponsors

- Datatrak
- Department of Health
- Malta Transport Authority
- Ministry for Justice and Home Affairs - Department for Local Government Malta Communications Authority
- Malta Enterprise
- Malta Environment & Planning Authority
- Malta Information Technology and Training Services
- Malta Maritime Authority
- Malta Police – Administrative Law Enforcement
- Malta University Services
- Megabyte
- Ministry for Rural Affairs and Environment
- National Soil Unit
- National Statistics Authority
- Oil Exploration Department
- St. John Rescue Corps
- University of Malta (Engineering and Geography Departments)
- Water Services Corporation
- Integrated Business Systems



# MAGI – Long term aims

- Develop the GI capacity of the nation
- Induce a strong, sustainable GI market
- Encourage a national GI strategy



# Tools to achieve MAGI goals

- Promote information flows and synergies
  - More GIS awareness and use in new sectors
- Education
  - Opportunities to study GIS and geomatics as an independent science
- Current GI practitioners
  - Code of ethics
  - CPD opportunities
  - Standards of practice

*Thank you*

