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# **PROVINCE OF ALICANTE**



4<sup>th</sup>-ranked province
141 town councils
83 < 5,000 population
8 > 50,000 population
1,891,000 total population
5,827 sq. km surface area
1,128,000 domestic prop.
1,150,000 vehicles





# Municipal Funding

- Taxes
  - Property tax (18.1% of 2007 revenues)
  - Tax on Economic Activities (3.3%)
  - Motor Vehicle Tax (5.1%)
  - Tax on Construction Works
  - Tax on Increase of Value of Urban Land (3.5%)
- Fees
- Special taxes
- Administrative fines
- Credit operations
- Property/assets revenue
- Subventions
- State Grants: Assignment regime / PIE (43.6%)
  - Income tax
  - VAT
  - Certain special taxes



#### - BROAD RANGE OF PROBLEMS

- CENSUS-BASED MANAGEMENT
- SMALL AMOUNTS TO PAY
- GREAT NUMBER OF TAX ITEMS
- INTEROPERABILITY WITH OTHER CENTRAL/REGIONAL PUBLIC BODIES, BANKS, PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS



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- POLITICAL FRAME



# MANAGING LOCAL TAXES IN SPAIN is:

A complex issue, subject to an extensive and changing legislation, influenced by frequent social and cultural changes, in an environment of spread powers, subject to increasing citizens' demands and conditioned by the political frame.



# Some relevant questions....

- Can a Town Council of 100 inhabitants manage its tax revenue effectively, using up-to-theminute technology at a reasonable cost?
- Is there any valid model both for this Town Hall and also for a 1,000 times bigger council?
- Is this an IMPOSSIBLE MISSION?









# **AT PRESENT**





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# SUMA IS AN AUTONOMOUS AGENCY OF ALICANTE PROVINCIAL COUNCIL SPECIALISING IN LOCAL TAX ADMINISTRATION



Suma do the job ON BEHALF OF each city council as it has delegated powers for:

- Billing
- Collection
- Inspection
- Enforcement

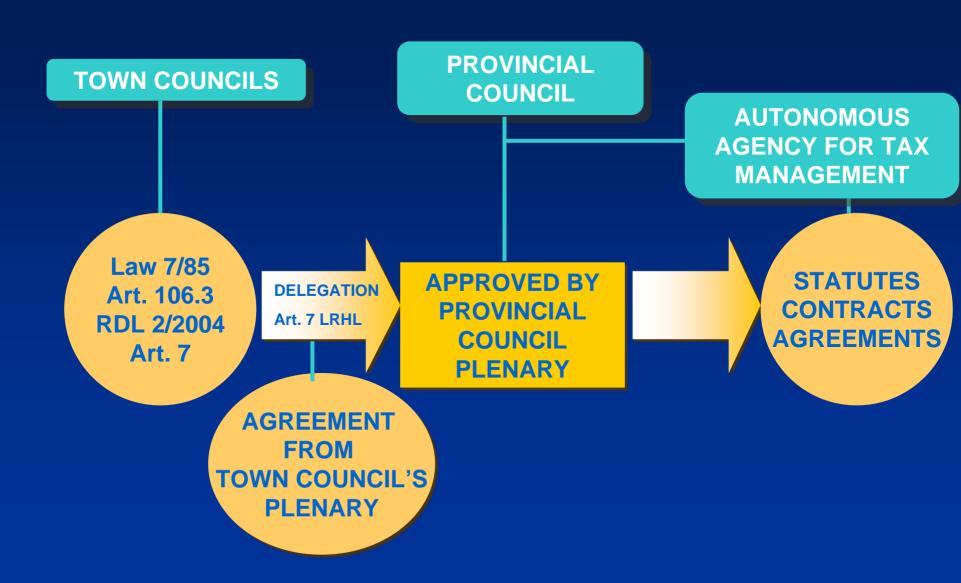
of all local taxes and fees

- Accounts to Alicante Provincial Council
- Chaired by the Provincial Council President
- Economic and administrative Autonomy
- Governing Body: Board of Councillors
- Consultative Body: Board of Mayors
- Executive Director appointed by Provincial Council

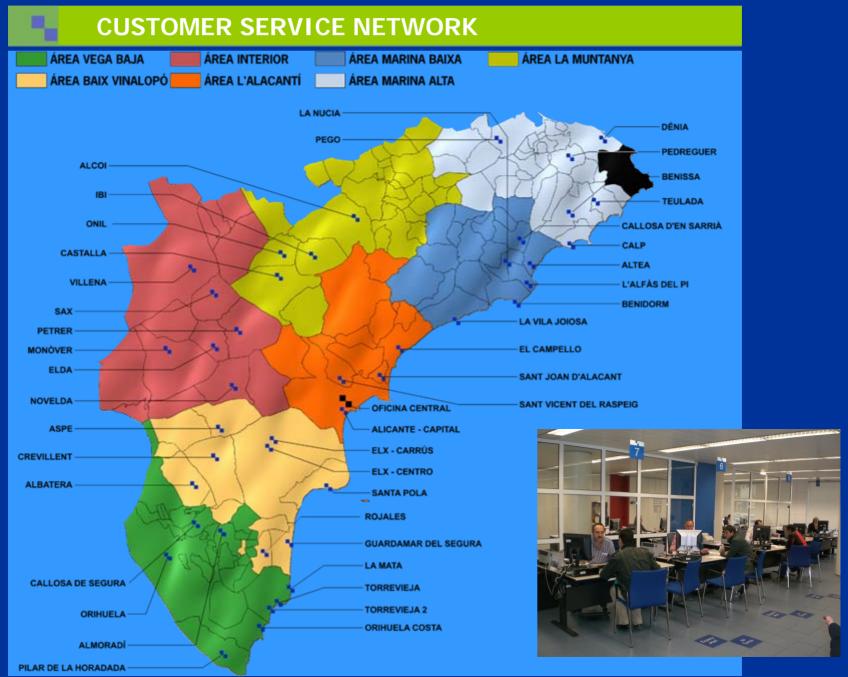




## **POWER DELEGATION MODEL**







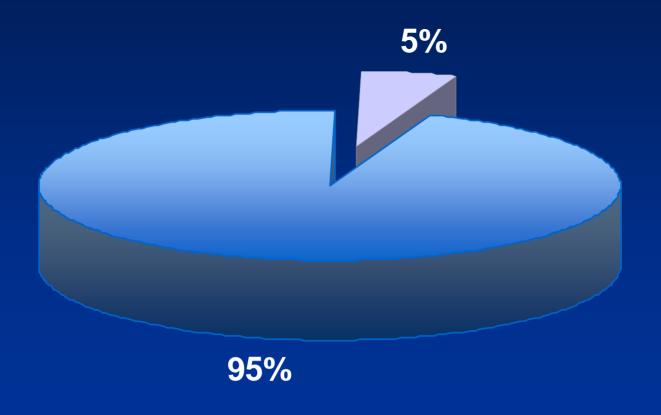


# **SOME ANNUAL FIGURES (2009)**

Associated municipalities	140
Number of invoices issued	3,8 million
Total Revenue	574 million €
No. of Taxpayers	2,7 million
Customer helped at offices	553.000
Customer service centres	44
Staff	478
Annual budget	30 million €



# ESTRUCTURE OF REVENUE MANAGED BY SUMA

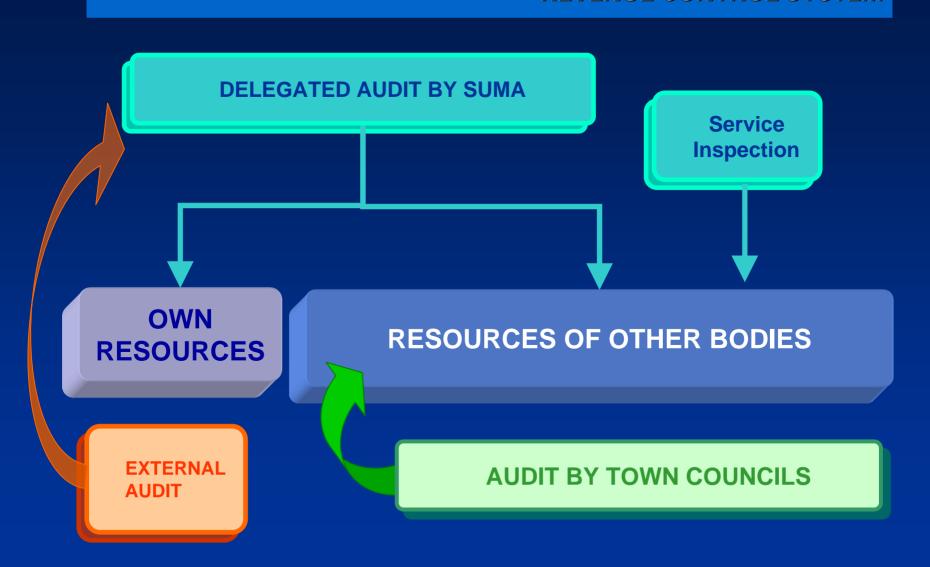


■ Resources of other Bodies

Own resources



#### REVENUE CONTROL SYSTEM





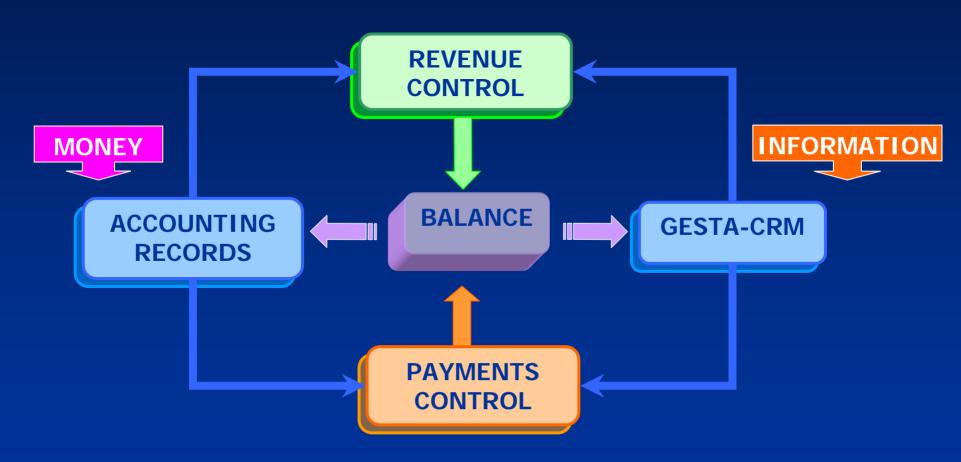
The **preliminary** revenue control was statutorily changed by the **recording of obligations**, though further verification actions must be taken by means of sampling or audit techniques.

#### Some of the verification actions are:

- Monthly verification that info in CRM and accounts tally
- Monthly cash audit
- Analysis of statements
- Auditing procedures and control systems
- Audit of software used to control tax collection
- Service inspection and internal audit plan
- External audit



#### **TALLY PROCESS**





#### Cash Audit:

The Law compulsory obliges to perform a yearly cash audit by the end of the fiscal year. At Suma this process is carried out on a monthly basis, cross-checking the balance info from the bank accounts and that in our accounting records. Own funds and external resources are also discriminated

# Analysis of statements

We have developed a comprehensive finance control system to make a reliable analysis of the data series aiming at detecting anomalous data behaviour and also at measuring the system efficiency to achieve the setup objectives.



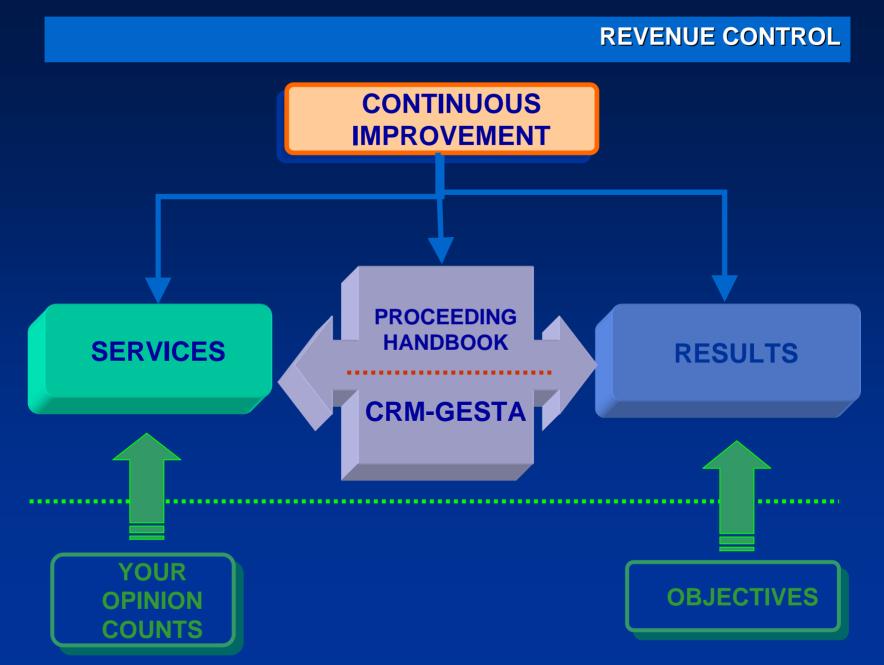
## Auditing procedures and control systems

The Finance Department decides which procedures are to be audited every semester, also including the respective internal controls (i.e. payment refunds, deferred payments, etc.). All transaction details are double-checked to verify that the procedures are in law. If defects are revealed, correcting measures will be put in place.

# Auditing the CRM software

The Finance Department also decides which menu options of GESTA (Suma's Tax Administration own-software) are to be audited every semester. All steps are revised to verify that the legal procedures have been implemented correctly. If defects or malfunctioning are revealed, correcting measures will be suggested to the ICT Dept for future implementation.







# Service Inspection Plan and internal audit

- √ Suma Management approves the annual inspection plan
- ✓ Relevant objectives:
  - Keep an efficient internal control of processes
  - Achieve a reliable work system and a proper use of resources.
  - Verify that legal framework and internal regulations are followed by the organization
- √ Samples techniques are used
- ✓ Results are published on the internal website
- ✓ Horizontal (multi-departmental) inspections of collection and
  enforcement proceedings are also carried out, including on-site visits
  to face-to-face customer service centers



## IN RELATION WITH THE CUSTOMER

Make it easy to contact the tax authority

Tax billing must be accurate

**Simplify procedures** 

Varied and accessible payment facilities

No indirect costs





# IN RELATION WITH TOWN COUNCILS

- Strive to achieve better results
- Shorten the tax life cycle
- Reduce service costs
- Value for money / Quality customer service
- Councils keep the control over information









#### **%ECONOMIC COMPENSATION AS OF TOTAL REVENUE**

