Open Land Data in the Fight against Corruption

Week 2: Monday September 16th - Sunday September 22nd 2019

STATEMENT OF THE WEEK:

> ## OPEN DATA IS NOT A MAGIC BULLET
> ### It takes more than open data to fight corruption.

While the excitement over the potential of open data as a tool to combat corruption is widely shared across the world, evidence of this impact is difficult to find. The Open movement has done well in other sectors to open up datasets and make more available, but the focus is now shifting towards the realization that more needs to be done than 'simply' disclosing more data. Further action, by researchers, journalists and civil society, is needed to leverage Open Data as indeed a resourceful tool in the fight against corruption.

Why is this currently not happening and what are the reasons for this? How can we make sure that increasing access to data also translates to data use?

Questions:
1. What are the needs of the different stakeholders to use Open Data? Why is it not happening? Which capacities or tools are needed to increase data use?
2. How to avoid that increasing accessibility to open land data increases the digital divide?
3. How can we ensure that use of Open Data is used as a means to combat corruption without invoking harmful side effects, such as putting land rights defenders at risk? What safeguards are needed to ensure data is used responsibly?