



# XXVII FIG CONGRESS

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## Open Data for Improved Land Governance

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## Is the land sector prepared for a data revolution?

- “Data revolution” started 6 decades ago, majorly impacting many sectors, e.g., finance
- Land sector playing catch up: Unprecedented demand for land information. However, land data in many parts of the world remains undocumented, inaccessible, and otherwise unusable.
- Land sector must find ways to seize opportunities presented by open data innovations while negotiating rapidly changing data environment.



## Open data approaches to land

1

Work with governments – the primary custodians of land data – to better collect, manage, and publish land data.

- **Open Up Guide for Land Governance**

2

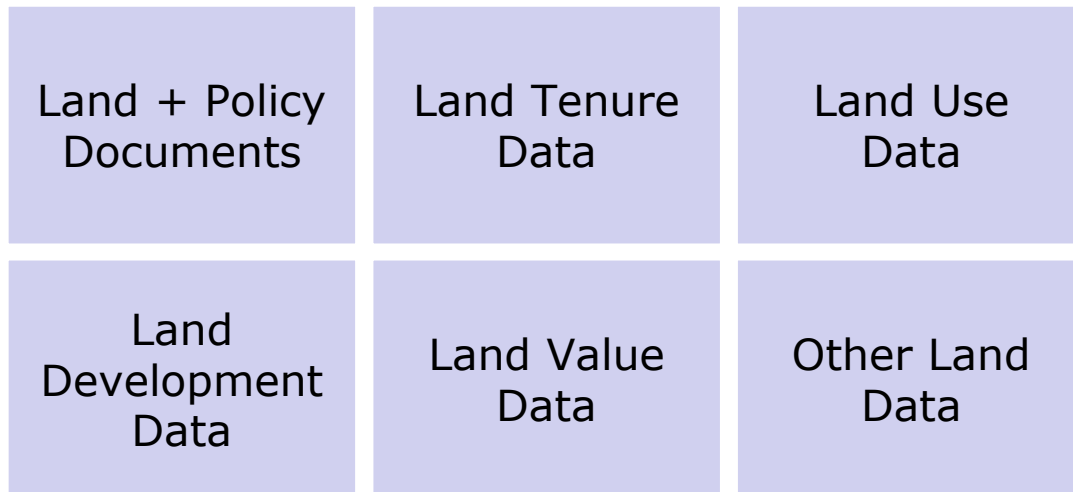
Use technical tools to increase discoverability and visibility of land data and information.

- **LandVoc**, a semantic vocabulary which links different sources of land information online.

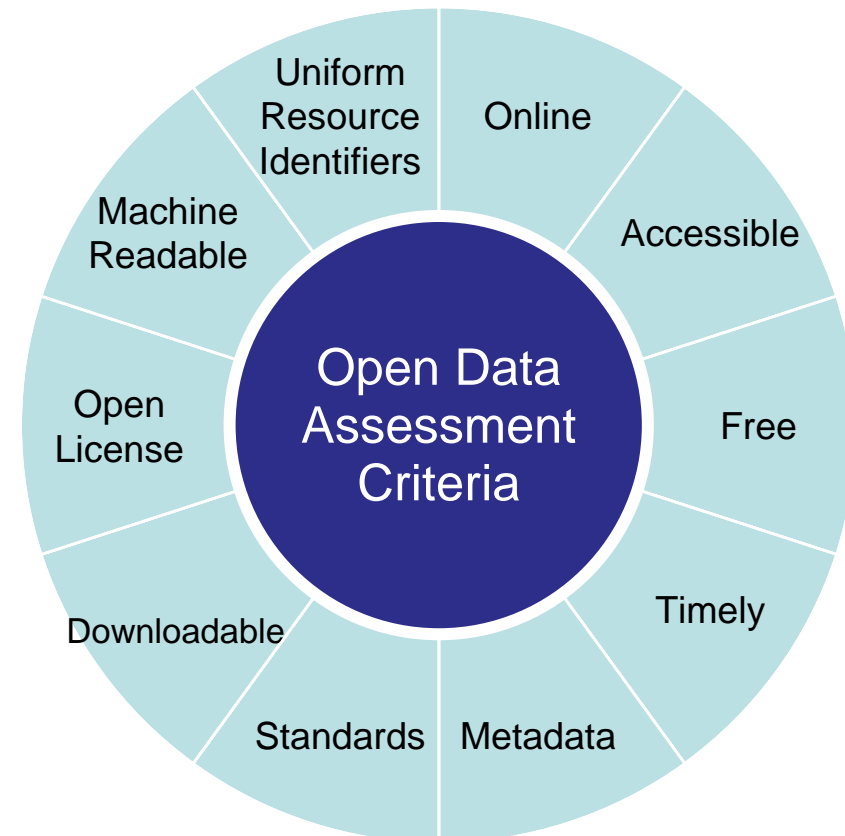


## Scoping the state of land data within countries

Step 1. Catalog existing data and information by **six key land-related categories**



Step 2. Assess data against **10 open data criteria**



## Case study: Piloting the Open Up Guide in Senegal & Madagascar



<https://landportal.org/open-up-guide>

The Open Up Guide for Land Governance is a practical guide for governments to collect and release land-related data for public benefit and decision-making.

Land Portal and Open Data Charter are collaborating with the governments of Senegal and Madagascar to pilot this project.



## Open Land Data Compliance Assessment for Senegal



Online

Accessible

Free

Timely

Metadata

Standards

Downloadable

Open licence

Machine  
readable

TOTAL

Legal

Yes

Little

Yes

Unknown

No

No

No

No

No

Partial

Land Tenure

No

No

Unknown

Unknown

No

No

No

No

No

No

Land Use

No

No

Partial

Unknown

No

No

No

No

No

No

Land Devpt

Little

Little

Partial

Unknown

No

No

No

No

No

Little

Land Value

Little

Little

Partial

Unknown

No

No

No

No

No

No

Other Land

Yes

Yes

Partial

Unknown

Partial

No

Partial

No

No

Partial

OVERALL

Little

Little

Partial

Unknown

No

No

No

No

No

Little

## Open data challenges

<b>Challenges / risks</b>	<b>Mitigation</b>
Privacy	Data management practices
Data sovereignty	Collaboration and consent
Data quality	Advocacy and training with relevant government agencies on collecting and managing data
Lack of authoritativeness	Opening up data to be studied, challenged, and improved

## Open data is a process, not a result



Open access to data is not a panacea to land-related problems, nor an objective in itself. Whether closed or open, high quality data remains high quality, and poor quality data poor.

The key difference is that exposing data to the public opens it up to be studied, challenged, and improved. Open data is the great facilitator of research, innovation, and new knowledge.



## Open Data for Improved Land Governance

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