

Women's Engagement in Forest Landscape Restoration: Practices and Challenges in Diana Region

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Introduction

- Forest Landscape Restoration (FLR) is a globally recognized approach aimed at restoring ecosystems, enhancing biodiversity, and supporting sustainable livelihoods (Chazdon et al., 2017)
- Women are among the primary users of natural resources and possess substantial knowledge and skills related to sustainable land management practices
- Despite their major role, their perspectives is still highly marginalized.



Photo 1: Vegetable crops cultivated by the women's association near Anketrakabe © Raharinaivo, 2023

Aims

- Provide a detailed understanding of women's roles in FLR practices in the Irodo Watershed
- Identify the barriers women are facing during their FLR practices implementations

Methodology

Study Area

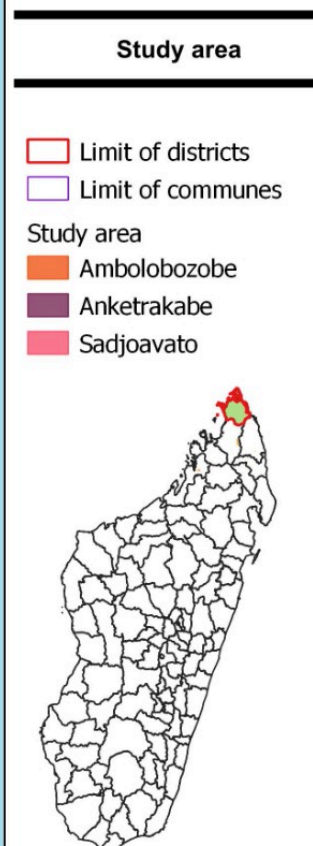
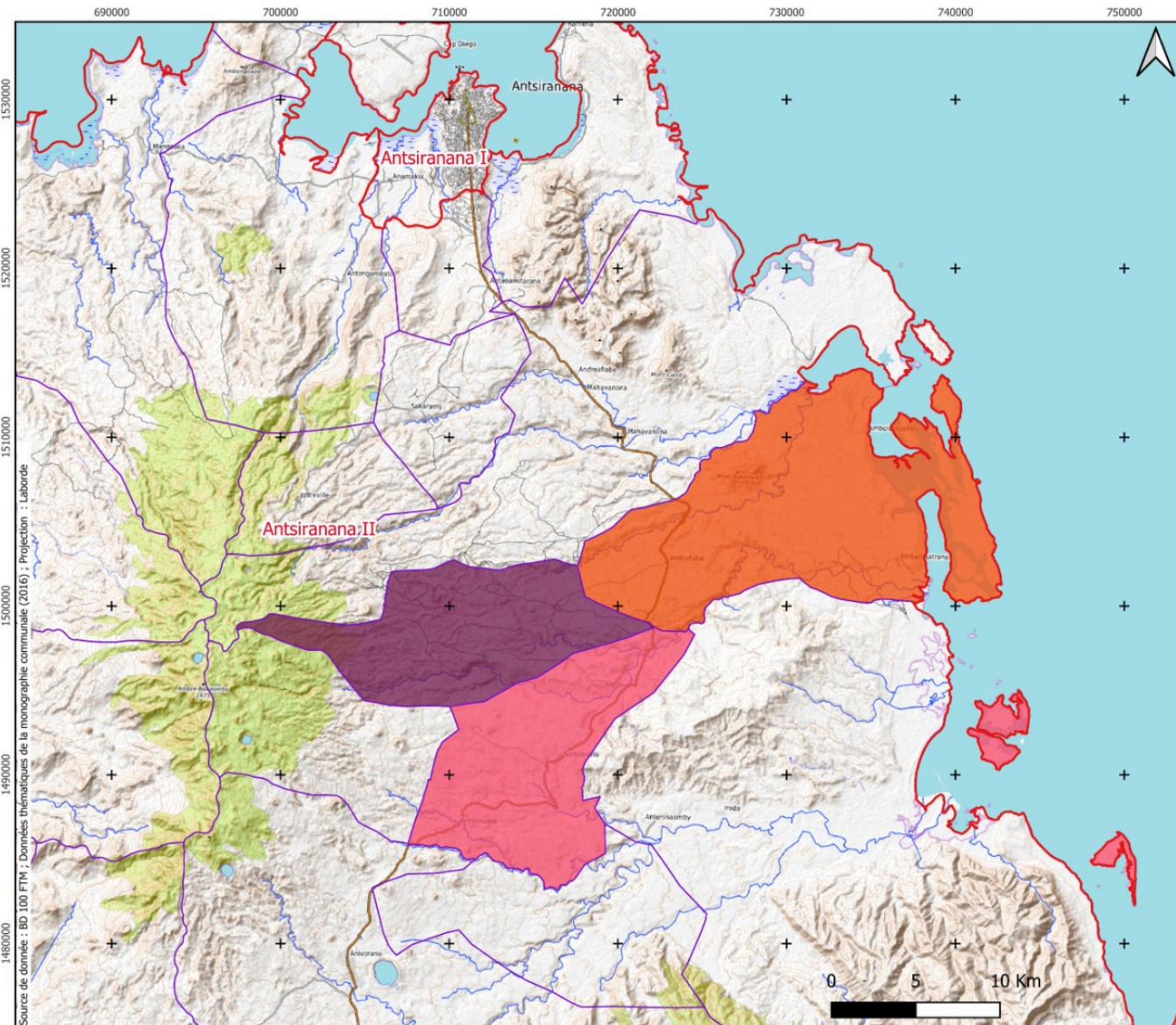


Figure 1: Study area. Source: Raharinaivo, 2023

- 3 villages out of 16
- Ambolobozobe, Sadjoavato and Anketrakabe

Mixed-methods approach, combining both qualitative and quantitative data collection

- Quantitative survey:** 111 surveys of woman head of households: Ambolobozobe (26); Sadjoavato (78) et Anketrakabe (7); conducted in July 2023

- Qualitative method:** A focus group discussion with women's association in each locality to capture a broader range of perspectives on the challenges related to FLR. It was conducted in August 2022



Photo 2: Household survey in Sadjoavato © Raharinaivo, 2023



Photo 3: Focus group discussion with the women's association of Ambolobozobe © Raharinaivo, 2023

Data Analysis

- Descriptive analysis** with data collected from the household surveys



Table 1: Organisation of FLR practices

Forestry option	Agroforestry Tree planting
Transversal option	Firewall Composting Fallow land Improve access to water Mulching
Agricultural option	Crop association Crop rotation

- Thematic analysis** (Braun & Clarke, 2006)
Induced and deduced codes



Table 2: Summerize of the themes and codes used

THEMES	Social Challenges	Governance challenges	Environmental challenges	Technical challenges
CODES	Equal rights	Information access Participative governance	Drying out of water points Flooding Siltting Decreased precipitation Emergence of invasive species Reduced soil fertility	Lack of technical training

Results

1. FLR practices implemented by women

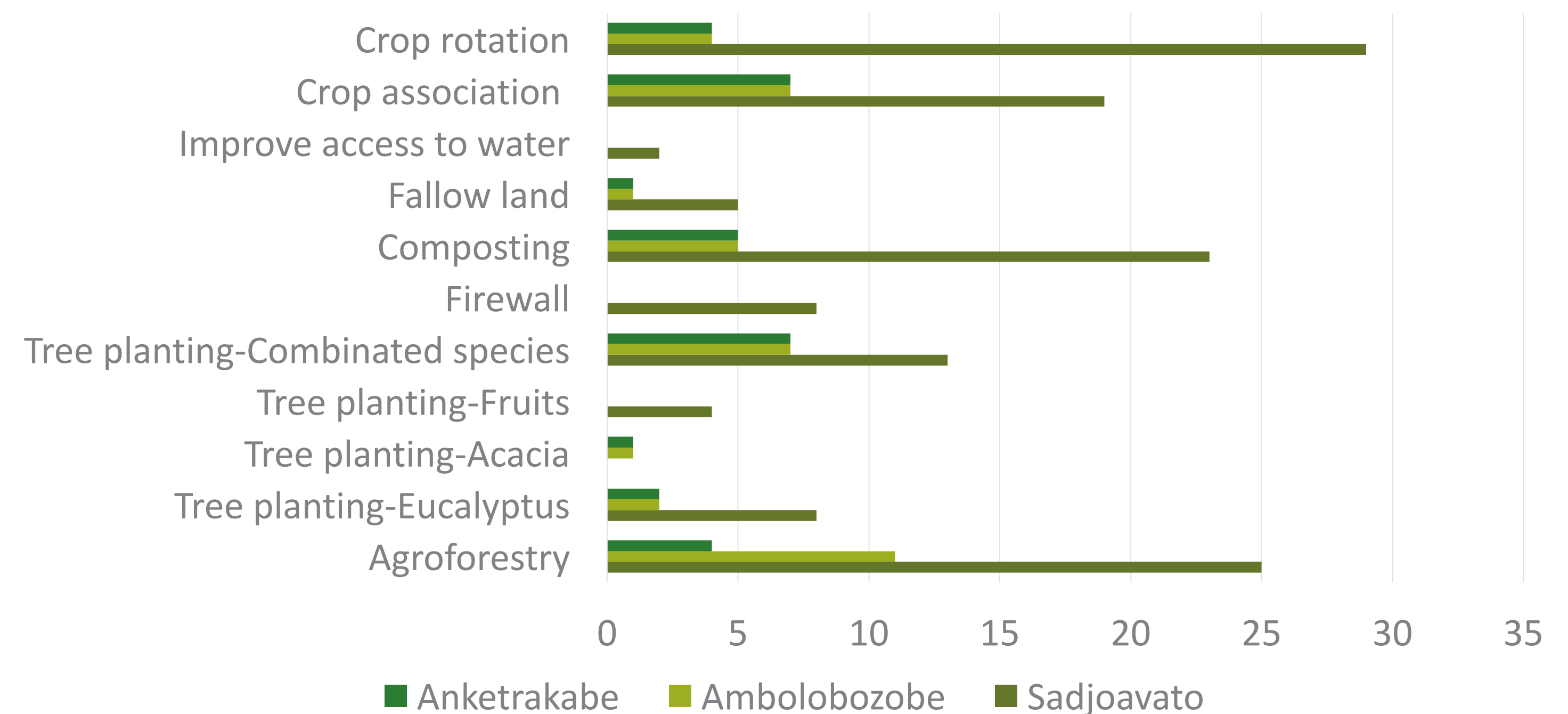


Figure 3: FLR practices practices by women in the three localities

2. Challenges faced by women

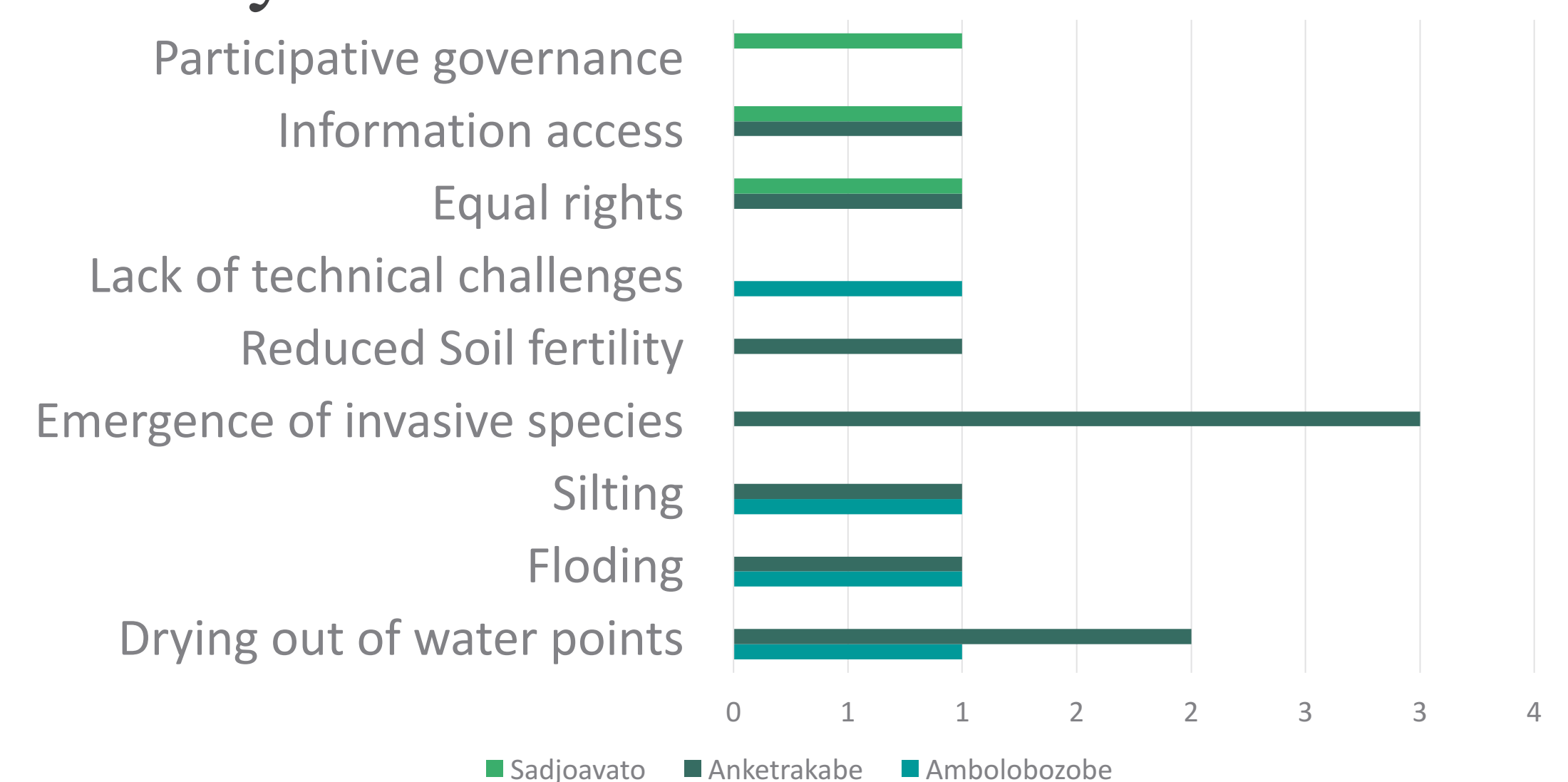


Figure 4: Main challenges faced by women in the three localities

Conclusion

- Women's role is mostly to implement the transversal options which are central to their land restoration strategies
- Women need help to integrate the other FLR options in order to face environmental challenges, which has been very well perceived, and to make their farms more resilient