

## Factsheet: Environmental Safeguards in Food Assistance Programs

# CRS MADAGASCAR SALOHI GO-GREEN STRATEGY

### WHAT IS IT?

CRS Madagascar implements the Food for Peace (FFP) Title II program, Strengthening and Accessing Livelihood Opportunities for Household Impact (SALOHI). The SALOHI program has developed and implemented an innovative system for integrating environmental management as a cross-cutting theme in their program, the Go Green Strategy (GGS). The GGS is an organizational policy that helps incorporate environmental thinking into relevant aspects of the Title II food assistance program.

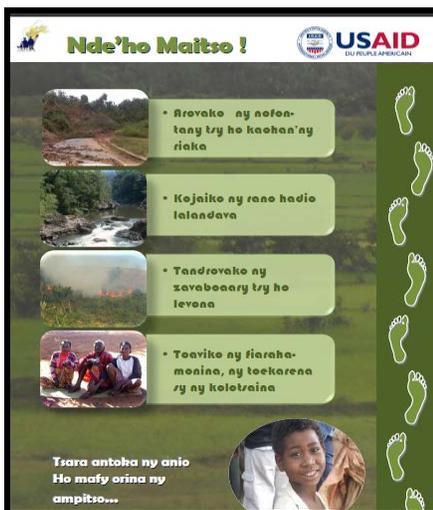
**The objective of the GGS is for PVO staff and beneficiaries to adopt an “environmental reflex.”**

This reflex will be based upon the recognition of an inherent link between beneficiaries’ daily lives, program goals and the environment.

### HOW IT WORKS?

The SALOHI **Go Green Strategy** takes the recommendations established in the program’s Initial Environmental Examination (IEE) and transfers them into user-friendly implementation scorecards. These scorecards assist in verifying the implementation of necessary environmental safeguards (i.e. water quality testing, promoting fuel-efficient cooking practices) as part of project activities.

**A Go Green Strategy poster, below, promotes environmental messaging in local language:**



### SCORECARDS

GGS scorecards distill complicated environmental management program design information into a manageable Yes/No response, monthly monitoring format for use by field agents. They also function as tools to communicate community progress to headquarters. This data on community progress, once collated, becomes a means for communicating HQ’s views of progress back to field agents.

**Example health and nutrition activities scorecard:**

FIELD CHECKLIST FOR SO1 ACTIVITIES WHEN LOOKING AROUND IN A VILLAGE OR HOUSEHOLD VISIT	YES	NO
<b>Use of water resources</b>		
Personal cleanliness of adult and kids at village level?		
Cooking utensils cleanliness at household level?		
Are people in the habit of purifying water? if yes what method ?		
<b>Use of soil resources</b>		
Do people have kitchen gardens nearby their household?		
<b>Use of Natural resources and their surrounding environment</b>		
Is there garbage pits per household or per village? if not, where do people throw their garbage ?		
Do people use latrines? if not where do they defecate?		

### BENEFITS TO PROGRAMMING

#### HOLISTIC ENVIRONMENTAL

**MANAGEMENT:** The SALOHI GGS helps move beyond compliance and towards planning activities with a holistic focus on the environment and sustainability. As one member of CRS SALOHI stated, the GGS, **“took environmental compliance beyond the dry rules and regulations to permit understanding underlying values behind USAID’s environmental policy.”**

**COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT:** Scorecards and their results are written in the local dialect and placed on a community board in each community so the process of evaluation is transparent. Over the course of 6 months, communities compete for a seedling or tool package based on their cumulative score from the scorecards.

**MESSAGING ABOUT ENVIRONMENT:** GGS posters are also used deliver short environmental messages every month. Each poster has a message around a central theme and uses very simple language and pictures to demonstrate the message. Posters both introduce and target specific GGS objectives relative to roads, biodiversity, conservation agriculture, irrigation, household waste, etc.