

BEYOND THE PIPELINE

A Newsletter for Our Pipeline Communities

AGRIMAN ADVENTURES



WHAT'S INSIDE

Taking the sporting world by storm

Preparing the next generation of writers

Saving our Mangroves

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Beyond the Pipeline is NGC's Community Newsletter, produced by the Corporate Communications Division of The National Gas Company of Trinidad and Tobago Limited (NGC)

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Message from the Senior Manager, Corporate Sustainability

Accelerating the Possibilities

We at NGC continually strive to conduct our business in ways that positively impact society and the environment. We deliver on our Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) commitments to address important societal gaps, promote creativity, and support community development and sustainable growth.

Our CSR programmes are wide-ranging, but we have been working hard to further increase the value of that portfolio for our stakeholders. The NGC/NAAATT National Junior and Open Championships and the Commonwealth Youth Games 2023 are two of several notable CSR initiatives we have undertaken this year. We continued to deliver our Inspire to Achieve (I2A) programme, seeing increased participation. In addition, we resumed our Above and Beyond programme, announcing our 2023/2024 honoree, and we supported the NGC Bocas Youth Fest. You may read more about our involvement with these festivals and programmes in this issue.

Through the NGC Group Green Agenda, helping Trinidad and Tobago confront climate change and meet its emission reduction targets has been another corporate goal. In addition to introducing a new portal called the Climate Adaptation and Resilience Portal (CARP), we are invested in a new education tool - the Sustain-U Training Platform. NGC also signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the Institute of Marine Affairs (IMA) to partner to save the Carli Bay Mangrove. We are also proud to share that we have maintained our Gold Standard status for Oil and Gas Methane Partnership (OGMP) Reporting for 2023.



LISA MARIA BURKETT
SENIOR MANAGER, CORPORATE SUSTAINABILITY, NGC

We are sharing this newsletter to help you better understand the work we have been doing to serve our national community. I would like to take this opportunity to wish you and your family a happy and successful year on behalf of NGC.



Lisa Maria Burkett
Senior Manager, Corporate Sustainability, NGC

Taking the sporting world by storm



Athletes visit the Fan Zone at the Hasely Crawford Stadium during the Commonwealth Youth Games

The 7th edition of the Commonwealth Youth Games (CYG, Games), which was scheduled to take place in 2021, was awarded to Trinidad and Tobago. The Games were postponed due to the COVID-19 pandemic and finally took place in August of 2023. For the first time, the Games featured para-athletics events.

Inaugurated in 2000 as a platform to help talented young athletes across the Commonwealth transition from junior to senior level competition, the CYG has been a flagship sporting event that has helped launch the careers of many professional sportsmen and women. Events include athletics; cycling; swimming; netball; rugby; triathlon; and volleyball. Over 70 countries, 1,000 athletes and 500 officials took part in these games in 2023.

NGC was proud to be the platinum sponsor of the Games. NGC's partnership was an extension of the company's longstanding commitment to develop sport in Trinidad and Tobago. The



Supporters visit the Fan Zone at the Hasely Crawford Stadium

company is heavily invested in track and field and has made significant contributions towards the development of other sporting disciplines, including cricket; basketball; and cycling. Through its work with the National Association of Athletics Administrations of Trinidad and Tobago (NAAATT), NGC has been deeply involved in the discovery and training of local sporting talent, and is a key partner on the journey to build and promote brand T&T as an athletics powerhouse.

During the Games, NGC additionally hosted a Fan Zone at the Hasely Crawford Stadium, where fans from both domestic and foreign countries were greeted by NGC employees and given souvenirs bearing the NGC logo. Foreign visitors and locals alike enjoyed NGC's Fan Zone, which showcased our culture in a unique way with Johnny's Young Coconuts and chow, 'This is Home' movies, and a photo mirror. People shared that they would return to Trinidad and Tobago after their experience.

Track and Field Glory - NGC/NAAATT Championship Series 2023



Athletes at NGC/NAAATT Championship Series 2023

NGC continued its title sponsorship of the NGC/NAAATT Championship Series, which included the National Junior Championships, held on 8th and 9th July 2023, and the Open Championships, held on 29th and 30th July 2023. Both events were held at the Hasely Crawford Stadium.

The Championship Series, formerly known as NAAA Championship Month, provides young athletes in the nation an opportunity to compete against the best of the best on a national stage. Since these track and field competitions have included individuals who have gone on to achieve success on the regional and international stages, they have served as an essential platform for exposure and growth.

At the Junior Championship Series, there were notable performances from Natanya Mc Lawrence, who captured two titles on the opening day of the event. First, she won the Girls' Under-20 Javelin Throw (600g) with 24.86 metres, with her clubmate Deyonce Graham (21.17m) in second place, and Kianna Llewellyn taking third with a best effort of 13.24. In the second win, Mc Lawrence was the lone competitor in the Girls' Under-20 Pole Vault with a best attempt of 1.60 metres.



Participants at the NGC/NAAATT Championship Series 2023

Supporters were treated to riveting performances from the athletes at the Open Championships. Some of the athletes stood out amongst their counterparts. Outstanding performances included two-time Olympian Keshorn Walcott in the men's javelin event.

He retained his crown with an 80.41m throw, after throwing 79.93m on his first attempt, and 79.76m on his second. Devin Augustine captured the national men's 100m title on day one by blasting to victory in 10.26s.

T&T Goal – NGC sponsors SSFL



Students celebrate during the Secondary Schools Football League

NGC was a silver sponsor of the 2023 season of the Secondary Schools Football League (SSFL), which was held at several venues throughout Trinidad and Tobago from September to December 2023.

The SSFL is one of the longest-established platforms for the development of the junior and youth football in Trinidad and Tobago. Countless boys and girls between the ages of 11 and 20 have earned scholarships to study and play at foreign colleges through their participation in the SSFL. Based on the foundation and opportunities provided by the SSFL, many students have pursued careers in sport with international clubs and leagues. In 2023, 114 secondary schools participated in the SSFL.

This sponsorship presents a valuable opportunity to build and enhance our brand awareness among a potentially



On the field action at the Secondary Schools Football League

untapped segment – the young talent of the SSFL, the staff of the schools and their supporters. The participants of the League may one day serve as a future talent pool for NGC or go on to represent Trinidad and Tobago at the senior level on the international playing field.

NGC sponsored the opening game of the Premiership, with St. Benedict's College beating Fatima College – 2022 winners of the Premiership/Intercol face-off. Fatima College won the Premiership with Presentation College being crowned Intercol Champions for 2023.

'Above and Beyond' 2023 Honoree - Alpha Sennon aka 'AgriMan'



NGC President Mark Loquan and 2023 Above and Beyond honoree Alpha Sennon plant a ceremonial tree.

NGC believes it is critical to recognise and value the remarkable accomplishments of people in Trinidad and Tobago so that everyone can understand and appreciate them. Based on this belief, NGC launched a programme in 2017 to honour and preserve the achievements of individuals and organisations who have dedicated their lives to bettering the country's communities.

The initiative was formerly called the NGC National Heroes Project, but it is now called the NGC Above and Beyond programme. Its goal is to draw attention to individuals and groups that have made outstanding contributions to their nation or the world at large in the following fields: community and social work, business, agriculture, sports, education, environment, energy, and the arts and culture.

The primary goal of the programme is to establish and encourage



Left to Right: Alpha Sennon, Above and Beyond honoree; Mark Loquan, NGC President; Hasely Crawford, TC, 2017 Above and Beyond honoree



Left to Right: Dr. Joseph Ishmael Khan, NGC Chairman; The Honourable Foster Cummings, Minister of Youth Development and National Service; Alpha Sennon, 2023 Above and Beyond honoree; Mrs. Candace-Charles Sennon, Education Officer and school tour coordinator at WHYFarm; Javed Ali, Deputy Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture, Land and Fisheries; Mark Loquan, NGC President

opportunities to honour the contributions that these people and organisations have made to Trinidad and Tobago's growth. This is managed by a number of initiatives designed to raise awareness of these contributions

and encourage individuals to have an influence of their own.

The 2023 honoree is Alpha Sennon, aka 'AGRIman'!

SOME INFORMATION ON ALPHA SENNON:

- Alpha seeks to prevent a global food crisis by sparking a new generation's interest in agriculture. He is reframing agriculture as an exciting, impactful career and creating pathways for inspired youth to grow their knowledge, build technical skills, and receive career support.
- He is inspiring young people in the Caribbean to value agriculture and explore opportunities in the sector, changing the mindsets of a generation that sees little appeal in farming.
- Through WHYFARM (We Help Youth Farm) he developed a multi-channel strategy that extends from youth into adulthood, balancing entertaining content with important lessons on nutrition, food security, sustainability, and more.
- At the heart of his approach is tapping into the power of pop culture and mass media to shift mindsets—showing 'why' youth should care by making agriculture cool.
- Alpha created 'AGRIman', the first superhero farmer who fights food insecurity, to overcome the stigma attached to agriculture and teach valuable lessons in a fun way. AGRIman and his squad are the champions of a communications ecosystem that spans a comic book series, an online video series, branded food products, as well as live events. This character has captured the attention of young audiences, planting a seed of interest that they can nurture through WHYFARM's many education programmes inside and outside of school.

Inspire to Achieve (I2A) – enriching experiences through learning



Centre - Mark Loquan, President NGC with students from the I2A programme

NGC's Inspire 2 Achieve (I2A) programme resumed on 29th April 2023 following the conclusion of Cohort 1. The overarching goal of the I2A programme is to provide students with opportunities outside of their communities.

Through field trips, the programme aims to help youths develop their talents by enriching their experiences. This time, these included:

- Students going to the Wild Fowl Trust and an ice cream factory to experience the concept of conservation. This gave them an entirely new perspective on business and even inspired some of their entrepreneurship projects.
- On another field trip, the students participated in a professional



Customers show interest in these cozy creations

photo shoot. This led to one of the students realising that photography was their passion after this experience. They paid close attention to the photography being taken during the field trip, and, according to

their parent, they are still honing this skill at home.

This illustrates how the programme offers a secure environment where youths can develop their skills and passions.



A student proudly displays her body and spa products

I2A activities from June to December 2023 include:

- Students participated in the La Brea Industrial Development Company Limited (LABIDCO) 'Trees for a Change Project' on 3rd June 2023. At the launch of the project, they planted a variety of trees, including coconut, guava, cashew, mango, and tamarind. This exercise was twofold, as it fell into the students' learning outcomes in the sustainability track as the projected impact would lead to a reduction in greenhouse gas emissions, increasing species diversity and strengthening the green spaces in the La Brea area. Additionally, they had the opportunity to experience the ground-level work, planting the trees alongside their facilitators and chaperoning parents.
- The children of NGC employees who had recently taken the SEA

examination were included in a special I2A camp from 26th June to 14th July 2023. The camp covered scaled-back versions of the STREAM track, which exposed them to the fundamentals of coding and computer programming, and the sustainability track, which made them aware of the concept of sustainability, climate change and the sustainability development goals.

- An I2A open house was held on 9th September 2023 and gave the students an opportunity to display the fruits of their labour. The entrepreneurship track displayed the products that they had developed to the public. The products being showcased included cupcake making, juices using 100% natural ingredients and even carnival costume design with sustainable practices in mind. They sold and marketed their products to their parents

and peruses of the open house, including presentations on the main stage.

- The open house served the function of demonstrating the success stories of the programme and helped to attract potential participants of the 2023-2024 cohort. As a result, many new signups were made that day. We are happy to share that the number of participants which began at about 56 has risen to about 140. The open house is helping to create buzz around the programme and has attracted visitors to the community following its completion.

In addition to the open house, the children had already had success marketing their products through online stores and in community marketing. Young Xhaiden Darius is on a trajectory to become a premier entertainer in Trinidad at six years old, not just with his talent at performing, which he demonstrated at NGC's 48th anniversary celebration, but also with the business aspect of performing, including price negotiation and networking to secure more performances. With this in mind, we look forward to seeing how I2A helps to foster the talents and confidence in its new participants going into its next cohort.



NGC's I2A Open House in La Brea

THE PLANS FOR I2A IN THE FUTURE INCLUDE:

- Conduct training and development in online business
- To conduct a study to determine and measure impact
- To start life training skills e.g.: public speaking, anger management
- To expand the programme to other communities
- To start I2A programme with the Police Youth Club
- Starting sessions at the Vessigny Secondary School with their students
- Give a source such as Gasco where they can find more material

Mayaro Secondary School is the Re-Energize TnT Energy Star



Students of Cohort 1 from the Mayaro Secondary School proudly display their ABE certificates.

In the previous issue of Beyond the Pipeline Volume 13, we shared about the Re-energize TnT Programme. This is a three-year renewable energy and energy conservation training initiative of Shell Trinidad and Tobago (Shell) and NGC. The programme is being administered by RE-NEW T&T and aims to increase awareness and foster behavioural change by educating students about renewable energy and energy efficiency.

Since the first group of students completed the programme, a competition called 'Energy Star' was held. The Energy Star Competition was an inter-school energy audit competition in which students from Mayaro Secondary School and Woodbrook Secondary School assessed the energy usage of various parts of their school and presented various methods for reducing their school's energy consumption to a panel of judges. While Woodbrook Secondary School performed admirably, Mayaro Secondary School emerged victorious.



As its reward, the Mayaro Secondary received a solar photovoltaic (PV) system. The installation of the PV system signifies a step towards a greener future for the school. It consists of state-of-the-art PV technology capable of converting sunlight into electricity for use on the school grounds. This renewable energy source will reduce the school's reliance on traditional energy

grids and provide the means for the institution to reduce its carbon footprint.

This initiative is just one of the ways in which Shell and NGC are fulfilling their commitment to sustaining the future of Trinidad and Tobago by supporting renewable energy and energy sustainability awareness and education.

Preparing the next generation of writers

NGC has been the title sponsor of the NGC Bocas Lit Fest for the past 12 years. Each year, the NGC Bocas Lit Fest brings together authors and readers from Trinidad and Tobago and the rest of the Caribbean.

The festival, now in its 13th year, included readings, performances, a children's storytelling caravan, and other events throughout April 2023.

As an extension of our title sponsorship of the main festival, we were proud to support the NGC Bocas Youth Fest, which was held from 20th to 21st October 2023, at the Department of Creative and Festival Arts at The University of the West Indies, Gordon Street, St. Augustine.

The NGC Bocas Youth Fest aims to encourage and prepare the next generation of young readers and writers. By solidifying its dominance in the market for youth literary education and facilitating the creation and monetisation of new educational products and services, the festival contributes to Bocas' larger sustainability strategy and attests to the organisation's overall stability.

The festival, which was free to the public, engaged youth aged 13 to 25 about how to integrate and leverage their creative interests in careers and in life. It also included the popular NGC Bocas Youth Debate. Teams of eloquent young debaters faced off and competed for both prize money and bragging rights. The youth arm of the festival also featured a career fair where attendees learned about a variety of career options linked to writing and other creative skills, along with a series of interactive workshops on topics such as writing for TV, stand-up comedy, and food blogging.

To view more information on the NGC Bocas Lit Festival, please visit: bocaslitfest.com/youth



Students at the NGC Bocas Youth Fest



Attentive students at the NGC Bocas Youth Fest

Creating a platform for local filmmakers



NGC was the signature sponsor of the trinidad+tobago film festival (ttff), which was held from 21st to 27th September 2023. This was the 18th Edition of the festival. For the past 15 years, NGC has sponsored ttff, which it sees as an investment in cultural preservation.

The festival's theme was 'Look We' and it challenged Caribbean people to take a deeper look at ourselves, our emotions, expressions, failures, and triumphs. It also invited the world to see the region from new and fresh perspectives.

Some of the films showcased included:

- **1place!**
- **Carrying the culture**
- **Doubles**
- **Hey nineteen**
- **Kisses on cuts**
- **Panazz: the story**
- **Paria's pearl**
- **Short cut**
- **Stick is life**
- **Take it back**
- **Trinidad remains**
- **Vulnerable**

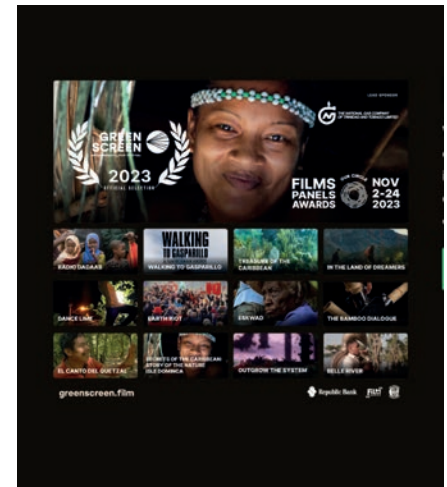
Our Circle - Green Screen Environmental Film Festival 2023



NGC was the lead sponsor of the 13th edition of the Green Screen Environmental Film Festival (GSEFF), which was held from 2nd to 5th November 2023. The GSEFF and Very Short Shorts competition embraced stories through film, with a focus on three Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs): SDG 12 (Responsible Consumption and Production); SDG 14 (Life Below Water); and SDG 15 (Life on Land).

Green Screen is a film festival that focuses on sustainability and the environment. It exposes stories from the Caribbean and throughout the world through a mobile film competition, educational workshops for schools, panel discussions and community and online film screenings.

The theme for GSEFF 2023 was 'Our Circle', which built on the idea that our natural world is a connected circle of elements and organisms. Just as all living things that call the sphere of Earth their home are connected, so too, communities, organisations and



individuals are also connected and dependent on each other in various ways. The idea of cooperation is key in the mission to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

For more information on Green Screen Environmental Film Festival 2023, please visit: greenscreen.film



NGC's Corporate Social Responsibility activities 2023







Green Corner

Climate change commitment through CARP



Persons listen to a demonstration on the CARP platform

NGC continues to demonstrate an unflagging commitment to climate action, through expansion of its Green Agenda portfolio of products and initiatives.

On 29th September 2023, NGC launched a new online platform called the Climate Adaptation and Resilience Portal (CARP), which aims to keep citizens abreast of climate-driven changes impacting Trinidad and Tobago.

CARP uses Geographic Information Services (GIS), artificial intelligence and predictive modelling to map and chart



climate-related risks such as sea level rise, coastal erosion and vulnerability and maritime alerts. The portal also allows users to track temperature and precipitation; tidal information; air quality; deforestation; and even active adverse weather alerts.

Other features such as best practices for adaptation from around the world, meteorological office forecasts, a climate adaptation and resilience news feed, and linkages to other GIS systems showing global trends, make CARP a comprehensive resource for climate information and decision support.

Sustainability Training Platform



NGC and Methanex have partnered to sponsor 'Sustain-U', a sustainability and ESG (environment, social, governance) training platform developed by Caribbean Ideas Academy.

Sustain-U seeks to develop and bring to market heavily discounted sustainability and training programmes. The training will assist organisations and their employees to build sustainability understanding, learn how to quantify impacts and take tangible action.

It is designed to help accelerate the Caribbean region's pursuit of the 17 United Nations Sustainable Development Goals with content that addresses learning around issues that currently act as challenges to building and strengthening regional sustainability. These include increased



risk of climate-related disasters, despite our low contribution to greenhouse gas emissions, social issues including crime and poverty, and a pressing need to future-proof our institutions to compete more effectively.

The Sustain-U curriculum will be broad, looking at more than just environmental issues. The intention is to introduce subscribers to the fundamentals of sustainability across all its dimensions and connect the dots between the academic concepts and real-life impacts.

Beyond the initial launch of the platform, the Caribbean Ideas

Academy team will accelerate the development of the first wave of Sustain-U training programmes for 'go live' in early Q1 2024. The training programmes will feature experienced practitioners providing intuitive and actionable sustainability insights, using a blend of their practical expertise, and understanding of our unique Caribbean context.

More details about Sustain-U can be found at <https://caribbeansustainu.com>. Parties that are interested in collaborating as founding partners, course contributors, or future customers are encouraged to connect via the website or email training@caribbeanideas.com.

Saving our Mangroves

The Carli Bay, Couva mangrove, the North Claxton Bay mangrove, and the South Claxton Bay mangrove forests are the result of the declining wetland environment. The mangroves in the northern part of the Couva River have declined significantly (also known as mangrove die-back), despite the system of the Couva River/Lisas Bay expanding and spreading over mudflats. With no significant natural mangrove regeneration seen since 2019, this concerning trend has continued for more than 10 years.

NGC is joining the effort to stem the decline in mangrove health in Trinidad and Tobago. In November 2023, the company signed a Memorandum of Agreement (MoA) with the Institute of Marine Affairs (IMA), to implement a Mangrove Rehabilitation Project in the Carli Bay/Point Lisas area. This collaboration will promote the restoration and protection of the mangroves in a region that plays a critical role in the country's environmental and economic landscape. The Institute, with the support of NGC, hopes to reclaim the mangrove in 'die-back' areas to enhance the mangrove health.



In working with the IMA, NGC will utilise its satellite technology and drones, originally deployed for aerial monitoring of its assets, to monitor coastal erosion, detect changes in coastal wetlands, and assess shifts in mangrove ecosystems and general shoreline conditions.

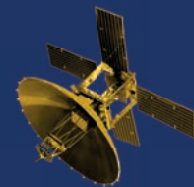
In addition to the restoration of the mangrove, the project will generate products for a public education campaign and a capacity-building programme, and IMA and NGC will work to raise awareness across neighbouring communities on the mangrove's vital role and how it can be protected.

NGC maintains Gold Standard for Oil and Gas Methane Partnership (OGMP) Reporting 2023

NGC Maintains

Gold Standard

for Oil and Gas Methane Partnership (OGMP) Reporting 2023



NGC has been seeking different avenues to support Trinidad and Tobago's commitment, under the Paris Climate Agreement, to reduce carbon dioxide (CO₂) equivalent emissions by 15% by the year 2030. Recognising the importance of accountability and reporting of emissions to that effort, NGC joined the Oil and Gas Methane Partnership (OGMP) in 2021.

On 1st December, at the world's capstone climate conference for 2023 - COP28, in the United Arab Emirates, the global Oil and Gas Methane Partnership (OGMP) released its signature report on methane emissions, which outlines the commitments made by member companies to reduce their methane output.

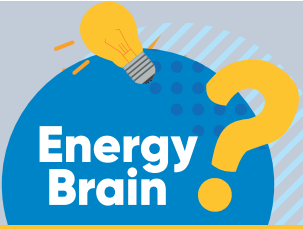
In this report, NGC - an OGMP member since 2021 - was highlighted as one of 84 companies achieving the 'Gold Standard' status for their level of reporting and methane reduction ambitions. This is the second consecutive year that NGC has achieved this recognition.



Photo of the Month

WILDFOWL TRUST 2023

Photo by Shaun Rambaran



Buster

1. NGC earned the Gold Standard for Oil and Gas Methane Partnership (OGMP) Reporting for the second time.
True/False
2. NGC is collaborating with the Institute of Marine Affairs to address the problem affecting the Couva River/Lisas Bay mangrove decline, (also described as mangrove die-back).
True/False
3. Trinidad and Tobago was awarded the honour of hosting the 8th edition of the Commonwealth Youth Games (CYG)
True/False
4. The NGC Bocas Youth Fest is a festival sponsored by NGC with the goal of encouraging and preparing the next generation of young readers and writers.
True/False
5. The I2A programme is geared at holistically developing Trinidad and Tobago's youth through training in the following areas: Science; Technology; Research; Engineering; Arts and Math (STREAM); Sustainability; Entrepreneurship and Art and Craft.
True/False
6. Mayaro Secondary School did not place first at the Re-Energize TnT Energy Star Competition.
True/False
7. Alpha Sennon, the founder of the Siparia-based WHYFarm, is the 2023–2024 NGC Above and Beyond Programme honoree.
True/False
8. WHYFarm means 'We Help Youth Farm'.
True/False
9. The Sustain-U platform was developed to teach about recycling.
True/False
10. NGC's new online platform called the Climate Adaptation and Resilience Portal (CARP), aims to keep citizens abreast of climate-driven changes impacting Trinidad and Tobago.
True/False



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