

Together, we can do more

Historically, the agendas of industry and big business have not often aligned with the concept of sustainable development. Energy companies in particular could be accused of operating for many years without being held accountable for future and broader-scale impact of their work. Indeed, it is universally acknowledged that the sector has contributed in large part to the environmental crises faced by the world today.

Addressing this misalignment requires a different kind of thinking - understanding that one's work has wider implications and externalities; consideration of impact beyond energy.

Today, fortunately, the necessary big-picture thinking is gaining ground. The historical misalignment between energy and sustainability is being corrected, as businesses, governments and academics across the world are collaborating to clean up energy production and consumption.

As the 17th UN Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) suggests, such partnership and collaboration are the only hope we have of meeting our climate goals and other SDG targets by the year 2030.

NGC and its subsidiaries have taken heed and is following suit, partnering to help achieve those global goals.

Taking on the SDGs

As an energy sector company, we are well-positioned to take on one of the most pressing issues facing our planet. Climate change has deep roots in the energy sector, which means we have a responsibility to help address it. We are doing just that, through several internal initiatives and strategic partnerships.

At the most basic level, we need to begin measuring and reporting on those metrics that impact our carbon footprint. We are strengthening our systems through smart reporting tools, and introducing dashboards to keep those metrics top of mind.

At the operational level, we are focusing heavily on methane mitigation. In addition to investing in specialist leak detection tools, we have entered into a partnership with an international provider to secure satellite data that will help us track emissions. We are on our way to membership in the Oil and Gas Methane Partnership, a global forum for exchange and innovation around methane mitigation.

At the systemic level, there needs to be investment in research and new technologies that can accelerate the drive toward sustainability in energy. This is the motivation behind our partnership in a new green hydrogen project, and in a research undertaking aimed at climate change mitigation.

Of course, climate change is not the only SDG that requires urgent action, and there are other unconventional yet impactful ways that energy companies can support sustainable development. For example, we have been exploring avenues to build food and water security, and enable sustainable community development, through strategic partnerships with government Ministries and other state entities.

In this issue of *Gasco News*, we take a look at some of the latest initiatives and partnerships of NGC and its subsidiary companies which are supporting sustainable development locally and contributing to the global SDG targets. We are looking beyond our business to the causes that matter and finding ways to collaborate and leverage our resources for the greater good.

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Mark Loquan, President, NGC

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