



THE NATIONAL GAS COMPANY
OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO LIMITED

BEYOND THE PIPELINE

A Newsletter for Our Pipeline Communities



PER SE VER ANCE

WHAT'S INSIDE

Reading Strategy
Workshops

JumpStart Incubator -
A Leg Up for Small/micro
Business

Tackling Climate Change
in the Region

Contents

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	
Perseverance	3
Best Social Investment Project Award Goes To...	4
Reading Strategy Workshops	5
JumpSTART Incubator – A Leg Up for Small/Micro Business	6
Food and Nutrition Security Alliance – An NGC/Nutrien Collaboration	7
Green Corner: Green Chats: CariGreen Expansion and EnergySmarTT App Update	8
Tackling Climate Change in the Region	10
Photo of the Month	11
Energy Brain Buster	11

Message from the Senior Manager, Corporate Sustainability

Perseverance

The definition of perseverance is “persistence in doing something despite difficulty or delay in achieving success.” To meet the challenges posed by the pandemic, we have had to both act and react in agile and decisive ways. As we move into the post-pandemic phase, we seek to strengthen and grow our business operations, keep our employees safe and seek out and seize promising opportunities.

Together with our partners, we have been developing ways to sustain and improve our Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) programmes and impact.

Our CSR efforts demonstrate our tenacity and commitment to bettering our society. That commitment was recognised by the Trinidad and Tobago Energy Chamber, who bestowed us with the Best Social Investment Project Award at its Annual Awards Programme. This was a proud moment for us.

Other accomplishments for the first half of 2022 included providing support for reading strategy workshops and a small business promotion programme, which are intended to help young people who want to launch or expand their own small businesses.

Supporting Trinidad and Tobago’s efforts to combat climate change and meet its emission reduction goals through the NGC Group Green Agenda is a top priority for us. An expansion of the CariGreen website and an update to the NGC EnergySmarTT app were two of our endeavours for 2022.

NGC has also been pursuing partnerships to support the push for sustainability. NGC and the Caribbean Community Centre for Climate Change (CCCCC) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to cooperate on initiatives that can have a positive impact on local climate change mitigation efforts.

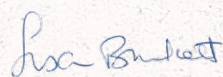
We also signed a partnership agreement with Nutrien to work together towards achieving food and nutrition security for



LISA MARIA BURKETT
SENIOR MANAGER, CORPORATE SUSTAINABILITY, NGC

Trinidad and Tobago. Furthermore, NGC and NewGen Energy Limited (NewGen) have signed a non-binding Letter of Intent (LOI), expressing our intent to work together to assess the advancement of NewGen’s hydrogen production facilities.

We share this newsletter in hopes that you will have a better understanding of the work we have been doing to support our national community while growing our business through sheer perseverance.



Lisa Maria Burkett
Senior Manager, Corporate Sustainability, NGC

Best Social Investment Project Award Goes To...



Mark Loquan, President, NGC and Lisa Maria Burkett, Senior Manager, Corporate Sustainability, NGC with the Energy Chamber Award for Best Social Investment Project – NGC Bocas Lit Fest.

NGC won the award for the Best Social Investment Project at the Trinidad and Tobago Energy Chamber's Annual Awards Programme 2022 for its partnership with the NGC Bocas Lit Fest.

NGC has been a sponsor of the Bocas Lit Fest since its beginning in 2011, becoming title sponsor in 2012. The Energy Chamber's award honoured the festival's contribution to local and regional literary industries.

Through a year-round calendar of activities and programmes, the NGC Bocas Lit Fest was able to create a

network of authors and readers from Trinidad and Tobago and the larger Caribbean. The organisers of the festival succeeded in switching to a virtual platform in 2020, when the COVID-19 outbreak made it impossible to hold any face-to-face forums, by continuing to innovate to expand reach and impact.

For NGC, the Best Social Investment Project Award is a manifestation of the great pride and a deep sense of accomplishment for the work of NGC Bocas Lit Fest. NGC's Senior Manager, Corporate Sustainability, Lisa Maria

Burkett noted, 'NGC is looking to deepen our impact beyond energy, supporting the UN Sustainable Development Goals through our green agenda and more future-focused Corporate Social Responsibility(CSR) investments. NGC Bocas Lit Fest aligns with our purpose, as it supports United Nations (UN) targets in education, arts and culture, empowerment, and economic development, among others. This alignment strengthens our commitment to this festival, as well as our conviction that with the Bocas team, we stand in good company to build a better tomorrow for our country and the wider region'.

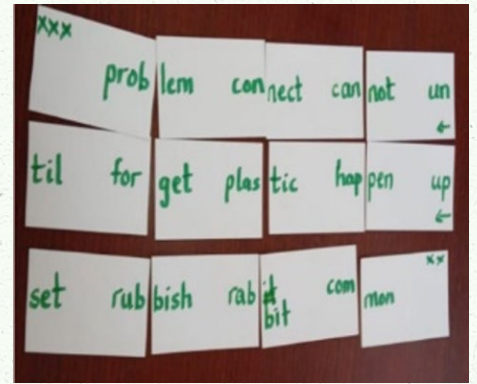
Reading Strategy Workshops



Preparing phonic cards and working with sound



The daughter of one of the participants uses a chart to practice fine motor skills



Matching syllables activity

Literacy not only enriches an individual's life, but it creates opportunities for people to develop skills that will help them provide for themselves and their families.

During the pandemic, parents of children in Infants 1 and 2 and Standard 1 were faced with the challenge of assisting their children with the school curriculum, for which most parents are not trained. Through Marilyn's Adult Literacy Tutors, NGC sponsored adult literacy training workshops for the public to access free of charge. These were geared specifically towards parents of children in the abovementioned age groups.

At the sessions, parents gained an understanding of the challenges poor readers face and the effects of the pandemic on students. The programme included reading basics such as phonics, syllable division rules and phonological awareness activities for students who have difficulty hearing sounds in words.

Participants also learned how to help their children identify sight words and picture nouns, which make up 85% of reading for this age group. Linking words in books to their surroundings, as well as preparing and playing literacy games, were featured in the sessions. In fact, the parents enjoyed playing the games themselves and at the end of the

workshop, they were allowed to take home the games they created.

The first workshop was conducted by veteran remedial education tutor, Marilyn Rampersad, at the Chaguanas Library. The sessions started in April and concluded in May 2022.

We are always pleased to aid with initiatives that are directed towards our Corporate Social Responsibility pillar of education and support achievement of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) #4 which focuses on education and literacy. A better-educated population will undoubtedly contribute to the growth and sustainability of the nation.



JumpSTART Incubator – A Leg Up for Small/Micro Business

NGC was pleased to be a sponsor of the Youth Business Trinidad and Tobago (YBTT) JumpSTART Incubator programme. The programme was designed to assist young people desirous of starting or growing their own small business. The programme commenced in April 2022 and ended in July 2022 with a virtual graduation ceremony on July 7th 2022.

The programme was administered virtually, twice weekly on Mondays and Thursdays from 5:30 p.m.–8:30 p.m., allowing for an accessible and comfortable learning experience for participants. Upon completion of the core 10-week training programme, all candidates were given access to an additional two months of mentorship with trained business advisors.

The incubator directly responds to the needs of young persons in business through the following objectives:

- Enhancing participants' understanding of the different parts of their business and how they work together to make it a success
- Motivating, inspiring and boosting self-confidence within



participants to take the next step in entrepreneurship

- Developing the capabilities and skills to design and pitch a business model canvas
- Enabling participants to start/grow their business

There were 21 participants, two of whom were from St. Lucia. Participants' enterprises spanned the industries of health, agriculture, food and beverage, IT, arts and culture, media, retail, and general services.

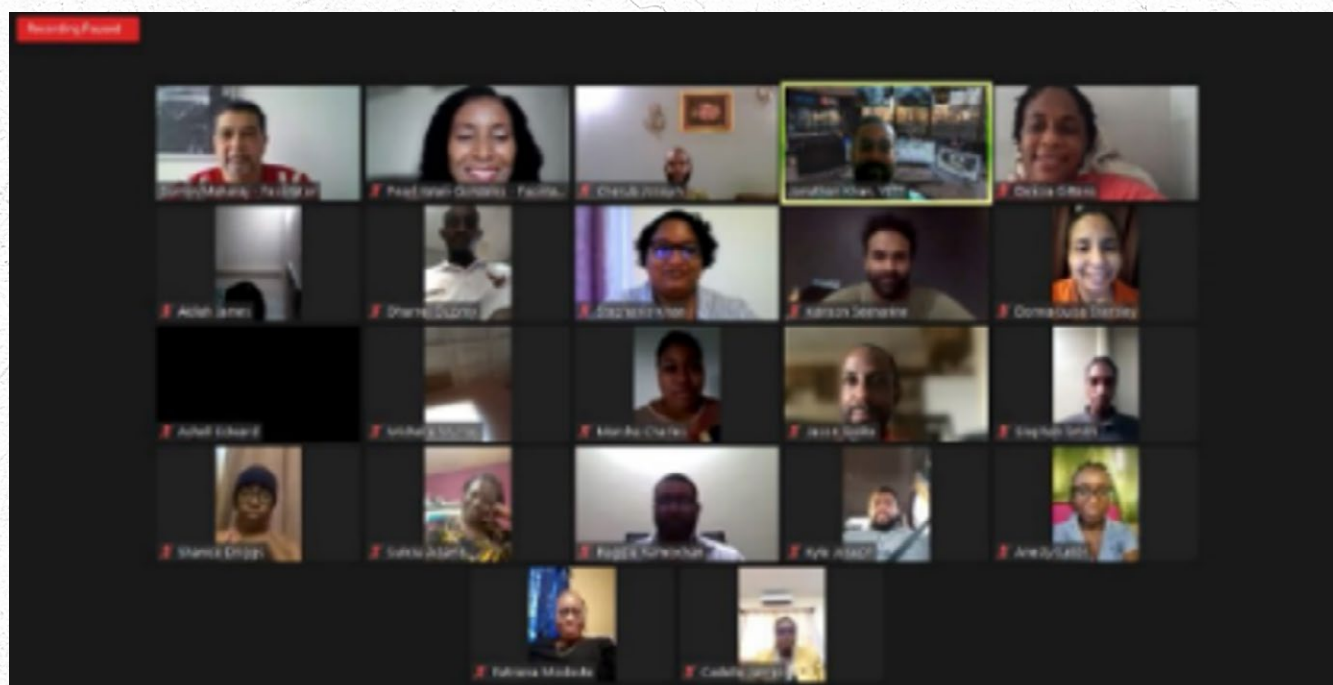
Over the duration of the programme, students experienced over 20 hours

of entrepreneurial training, focused on effectuation, design thinking, the business model canvas, field testing and the development of one's product and service with the customer in mind.

Participants will also benefit from the unique opportunity to access five months of mentorship support during and after the training to innovate or launch ideas. YBTT also offers the Entrepreneur Resource Platform, which provides tools, templates and videos for building a foundation at the early start-up stage.

The programme culminated with a virtual pitch event, where participants pitched their businesses or ideas to an expert panel of judges, receiving advice and guidance.

The JumpSTART Incubator is directly aligned to NGC's sustainability goals as well as United Nations SDG #1: No Poverty, #2 Zero Hunger, #4: Quality Education, #8: Decent Work and Economic Growth and #9: Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure. NGC sees it as part of its social responsibility to support initiatives such as this, which will redound to the future benefit of the country.



JumpSTART participants

Food and Nutrition Security Alliance – An NGC/Nutrien Collaboration

NGC and Nutrien have recognised the impacts of climate change on food security worldwide. As a result, the two businesses signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to form an alliance with the goal of utilising the expertise of all stakeholders to reduce the impact of climate change on food security, while boosting sustainability in Trinidad and Tobago.

This partnership is underpinned by the recognition that enhancing local food production and consumption can play an integral role in Trinidad and Tobago's food security, while simultaneously improving nutrition, diets and overall health and wellness.

Both companies intend to work closely with stakeholders along the local food value chain to identify opportunities to improve food and nutrition security in the following five main areas:



Ian Walcott, Managing Director, Nutrien and Mark Loquan, President, NGC

Praedial Larceny:

Improving detection and intervention through the deployment of shared remote sensing technologies, such as closed-circuit cameras, sensors, and unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs).

Precision Agriculture:

Introducing, testing and deploying precision agriculture methods through UAVs and satellite technology. This model will aim to improve plant health monitoring efficiency and sustainability in the use of agricultural inputs.

Food Waste:

Identifying opportunities to reduce food waste. This will support the country's efforts to reduce carbon emissions in the fight against climate change and help the most vulnerable meet their daily nutritional needs.

Community Climate Smart Agriculture:

Promoting food production at the community level using Climate Smart Agriculture (CSA). CSA is an integrated approach to managing crops, livestock, forests, and fisheries that addresses the interlinked challenges of food security and accelerating climate change.

Food, Health, and Nutritional Awareness:

Building public awareness regarding the health benefits of boosting the production and consumption of fresh, locally produced foods, especially those with high, plant-based content.

The immediate next steps for this Food and Nutrition Security Alliance will be engagement with key partners along the food value chain to develop plans for these five focal areas. Over the next two

years, priority areas will be identified and appropriate action plans developed.

Our common aspiration is to effectively enhance the agricultural sector in

alignment with the UN Sustainable Development Goals and bring tangible and sustainable benefits to our people, working together to improve our world from the ground up.

Green Corner

CariGreen Expansion and EnergySmarTT App Update

As the world takes determined measures to achieve climate and energy goals, NGC understands that education, awareness and knowledge - sharing are critical to meeting targets.

The Company has sought to enhance and expand two key initiatives to connect people with information:

- NGC CariGreen – a green energy information website
- NGC EnergySmarTT – a mobile app for energy efficiency and conservation

CariGreen

www.carigreen.ngc.co.tt, first launched at the 2021 Trinidad and Tobago Energy Conference, aims to bring learning resources about Caribbean clean energy into one platform.

It is a portal that provides information on available opportunities, energy markets and technology developments within the clean energy space in the Caribbean region. NGC worked on building the resource through strategic collaboration with content partner, which allows for continuous addition of the latest information on green energy.

In 2022, NGC made significant enhancements to the website, the most notable of which is the addition of a new 'Projects' section. The section features an evolving dataset of material on green energy projects across the Caribbean and Latin America – projects that will play an essential role in the energy mix as the region transitions to cleaner forms of energy.

Visitors to the website can use key words and data filters to search and extract complete, timely and trusted information from a frequently updated list of projects. Each project listed is supported by an individual information sheet which gives key statistics, such as location and capacity, as well as additional resources for further details.

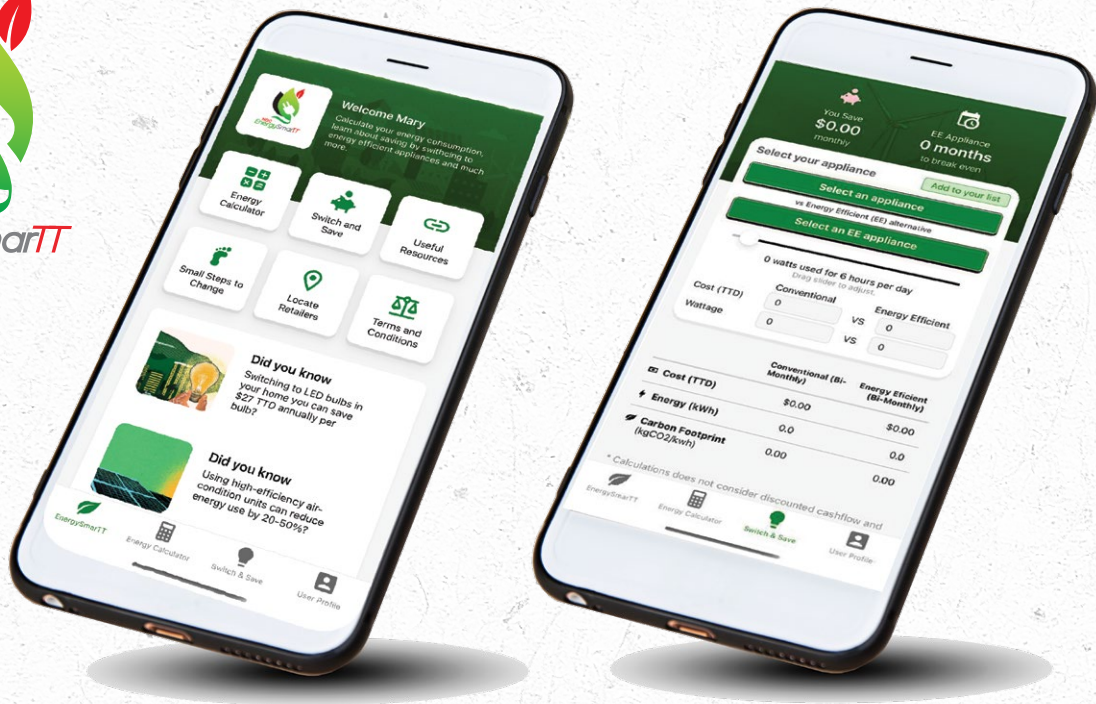
As the site evolves and as more data comes to hand, content categories and sections will be expanded. Engagement with stakeholders will also inform content as the repository is meant to meet the needs and demands of researchers, investors and even the average citizen with an interest in learning more about clean energy.

About CariGreen

The CARIGREEN platform brings together datasets, knowledge, events, information products, economic data, climate change strategies from various established sources around the Caribbean region into one central location, with the aim to drive engagement, collaboration, energy education, conversation, research and development for matters relating to the green agenda.

[Learn More](#)





EnergySmarTT App

In 2020, as part of its expanding portfolio of green agenda investments and initiatives, NGC developed and launched the country's first mobile app as an energy education tool for users to gain customised insights into their individual carbon footprint.

EnergySmarTT – available for free download by the public, aims to change behaviours and attitudes towards energy consumption – particularly at the domestic level – and increase awareness about the big-picture environmental impact of personal choices.

NGC has undertaken an expansion of the pioneering app to include more features that increase its value and streamline its functionality. The upgraded app was officially released for download in June 2022 and is free from the Apple and Android mobile application stores.

Building on the strengths of the original app, the second iteration boasts several useful features:

1. The 'My Consumption' feature has been renamed '**Energy Calculator**' and allows users to calculate their estimated electricity cost and carbon footprint on a daily, monthly or yearly basis.
2. The '**Switch and Save**' feature calculates the estimated payback period, over which the purchase cost of an energy efficiency (EE) product would be amortised. Additionally, more renewable energy products have been added to the product selection available to app users.
3. The app is now also linked to **NGC's CariGreen website**. Through the CariGreen platform, app users can now learn about efficiency and conservation within the broader context of global climate action, which will help sensitise them to the big-picture impact of managing their personal energy consumption.
4. The **EnergySmarTT app has upgraded the feature which uses location-based services linked to mobile devices to highlight where EE products can be purchased** within Trinidad and Tobago.

At the 2022 Trinidad and Tobago Energy Conference, NGC President, Mark Loquan, officially introduced the expansions made to CariGreen and Energy SmarTT. He noted '... both the website and the mobile app share the goal of raising awareness and understanding of clean energy, energy efficiency and sustainability by connecting people to easily accessed information. Valuable data and insights that would have otherwise been tucked away inside articles, journals, research papers, and statistical databases are now at the fingertips of anyone with a digital device. NGC will seek to introduce further innovations across all its energy education platforms to amplify the reach and resonance of its messages'.

Tackling Climate Change in the Region

NGC has long recognised that the fight against climate change can only be successful if there is a network of partners and stakeholders committed to knowledge sharing and integrating skills to build a sustainable energy future for the Caribbean. This idea served as the foundation for a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to be signed between NGC and the Caribbean Community Centre for Climate Change (CCCCC) to collaborate on projects and initiatives that would reduce local climate change.

The MOU between NGC and CCCCC places a strong emphasis on enhancing the accuracy of data collection and analysis related to climate change to enable CARICOM-wide-evidence-based decision-making.

Furthermore, it makes it possible for data from the CCCCC's Regional Clearinghouse Database to be shared on the NGC's CariGreen website, promoting improved access to, availability of, and utilisation of regional climate change data.

The MOU offers NGC and members of The NGC Group the chance to investigate investments in clean energy and renewable energy projects that are being implemented or developed by the



Mark Loquan, President, NGC

CCCCC in CARICOM nations, in addition to knowledge sharing. The partnership has given NGC and the CCCCC the opportunity to work together on projects that are in line with their shared agendas for sustainability and the environment.

NGC President, Mark Loquan, remarked, 'NGC is excited about the immense potential of this collaboration with CCCCC. We have already established functional areas for actual projects that will lead to accomplishments and tangible outcomes. The Company is still actively searching for organisations



Colin Young, Executive Director, CCCCC

who, like NGC, are working towards a green agenda in order to combat climate change, progress the energy transition, and achieve environmental sustainability and energy efficiency'.

NGC and its subsidiaries recognise the value and importance of sharing and leveraging resources among stakeholders to meet climate change challenges. NGC is ready to accept the challenge and is well positioned to create partnerships that will shape national and regional conversations around sustainability.



Photo of the Month

Visitors to the Caroni Bird Sanctuary observe the scarlet ibis and flamingos as they make their way back to the roost at dusk.



Energy
Brain

Buster

1. NGC won the award for the Best Social Investment Project at the Energy Chamber's Annual Awards Programme 2022. – True/False
2. The Best Social Investment Project 2022 was the Trinidad and Tobago Film Festival – True/False
3. Through Marilyn's Adult Literacy Tutors, NGC sponsored adult literacy training workshops at a special price. – True/False
4. The United Nations Sustainable Development Goal #4 focuses on education. – True/False
5. The Youth Business Trinidad and Tobago (YBTT) JumpSTART Incubator programme is designed to assist young people who are desirous of starting or growing their own small business. – True/False
6. NGC and Nutrien have formed an alliance with the goal of reducing the impact of climate change on food security while boosting sustainability in Trinidad and Tobago. – True/False
7. In 2022, NGC upgraded the NGC CariGreen website only. – True/False
8. NGC EnergySmarTT is a mobile app which shares information on energy efficiency and conservation. – True/False
9. Payment is required to download the NGC EnergySmarTT app. – True/False
10. The Caribbean Community Climate Change Centre (CCCCC) coordinates the Caribbean region's response to climate change, working on effective solutions and projects to combat its environmental impacts and global warming. – True/False

ANSWERS:
1) TRUE 2) FALSE 3) FALSE 4) TRUE 5) TRUE 6) TRUE 7) FALSE 8) TRUE 9) FALSE 10) TRUE