

# NGC upgrades EnergySmarTT mobile app and CariGreen website





## **||**

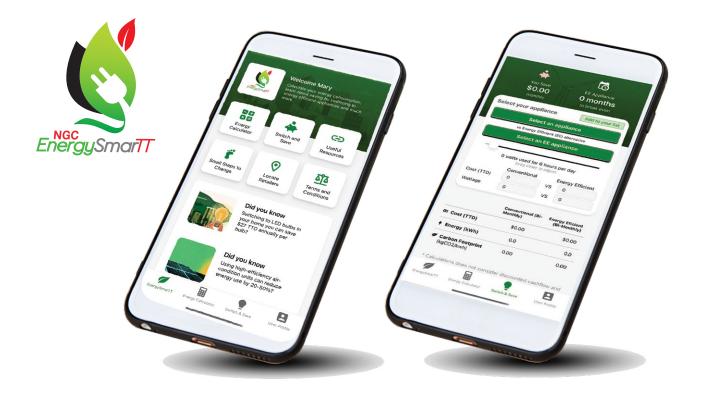
The National Gas Company of Trinidad and Tobago Limited (NGC) has been working to build national capacity and consciousness around energy efficiency and renewable energy (EE/RE). In an effort to support national emissions reduction targets and broader global climate goals, The National Gas Company of Trinidad and Tobago Limited (NGC) has been working to build national capacity and consciousness around energy efficiency and renewable energy (EE/RE). In the past two years, the Company developed and launched two resources geared toward green energy education.

The first was the country's first mobile app around energy efficiency and conservation (EE&C) - EnergySmarTT. This app, available for free download by the public, aims to change behaviours and attitudes toward energy consumption particularly at the domestic level - and increase awareness about the big picture environmental impact of personal choices. At the time of its launch in 2020, it was the first local energy education mobile application in Trinidad and Tobago and allowed anyone with an Android or Apple device to gain customised insights into his or her individual carbon footprint.

The second, launched in 2021, was the CariGreen website. NGC created CariGreen to be a repository for authoritative, updated information on Caribbean clean energy, to make it easier for investors, academics and citizens to conduct research in this area. The ultimate aim was to help expedite investment decisions and clean energy project development in the region.

Following the successful deployment of these resources, NGC decided to undertake expansion of both the app and website in 2022, to include more features that increase their value and streamline their functionality. These upgrades, executed in June 2022, are highlighted on the following page.

### NGC upgrades EnergySmarTT mobile app and CariGreen website | CONTINUED



#### EnergySmarTT 2.0

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

 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. Users can select an appliance from the list, input their usage pattern and get an estimate of what they pay to power that appliance over the specified period.

In addition, users can now input their desired expenditure on power for any given appliance, and the app reveals what duration of usage corresponds to that figure – i.e. how many hours per day/week/ month one would be able to use that appliance in order to limit its power cost to the stipulated amount. Additional upgrades under this feature will soon include a field for users to find out estimated T&TEC rebates, and an expanded appliance listing with commercial grade equipment used by small businesses and Light Industrial and Commercial (LIC) customers.

2. The 'Switch and Save' feature helps users understand the cost of purchasing an EE product. The app calculates the estimated payback period, over which the purchase cost of an EE product would be amortised - i.e. how long consumers would have to wait before realising savings on their energy bills because of that purchase. Calculations illustrate the simple payback, monthly savings, and an estimated carbon savings breakdown per day/month/year.

Additionally, the listing of products from which app users can select has been expanded to include more renewable energy products.

- 3. Energy Saving Tips are included to highlight the simple measures users can implement to reduce their consumption habits for common household appliances and products. The app is now also linked to NGC's CariGreen website, which allows users to learn about efficiency and conservation within the broader context of global climate action. This will help sensitise them to the big picture impact of managing their personal energy consumption.
- 4. The EnergySmarTT app has a unique feature which uses location-based services linked to mobile devices to highlight where EE products can be purchased within Trinidad and Tobago.

NGC has upgraded this feature to make it easier for businesses selling these products to get the requisite approvals to be featured on the app.



It is envisioned that streamlining this process will attract more businesses to the platform and enrich the directory for app users.

Additionally, users are now able to search within a particular radius for stores that sell EE products, which further enhances their accessibility and improves likelihood of purchase.

#### An expanded CariGreen

Through the CariGreen website, NGC and its subsidiaries aim to:

- Provide a platform that will bring together datasets, information products, economic data and climate change strategies from different sources into one central location to provide users with complete, timely and trusted information;
- Drive engagement, collaboration and conversation with stakeholders through integration of social media tools and development of energy reports; and
- Build the necessary relationships between the Caribbean and

international energy information organisations to sensitise and inform citizens on matters related to green energy.

At its launch, the website's content was divided into:

- Project background and partner information
- Energy transition topics: renewable energy, energy efficiency, alternative fuels, carbon capture and sequestration
- Market information: research reports, funding agencies/ mechanisms
- Caribbean territories: countryspecific data from CARICOM and non-CARICOM members around energy transition projects and strategies

In 2022, NGC added a new category to house information about specific renewable energy projects in the region. Included here are specifications of over 100 wind, solar, geothermal, biomass, hydrogen and hydropower facilities and projects across Latin America and the Caribbean. The site profiles the capacity and location of these facilities, and links visitors to the respective facility websites for further information. This upgrade now makes it easier for site visitors to survey the landscape of regional clean energy.

#### **Building stronger**

As NGC intensifies its lobby for climate action at the industry, community and household levels, the Company will seek to introduce further innovations across all its energy education platforms, in an effort to amplify the reach and resonance of its messages. Users of the EnergySmarTT app and CariGreen website can therefore expect to see further enhancements and features in future.

NGC encourages all citizens to download the free EnergySmarTT app from their respective mobile application stores, and to visit the CariGreen website at **www.carigreen. ngc.co.tt**, to learn more about the movement to lower our collective carbon footprint. Action is urgently needed, and the personal choices we make today will determine what kind of planet we leave for our children.