

SHELL AND NGC PARTNER TO "RE-ENERGIZE TNT" THROUGH EDUCATION

ESTIMATED READ TIME: 5 MINUTES

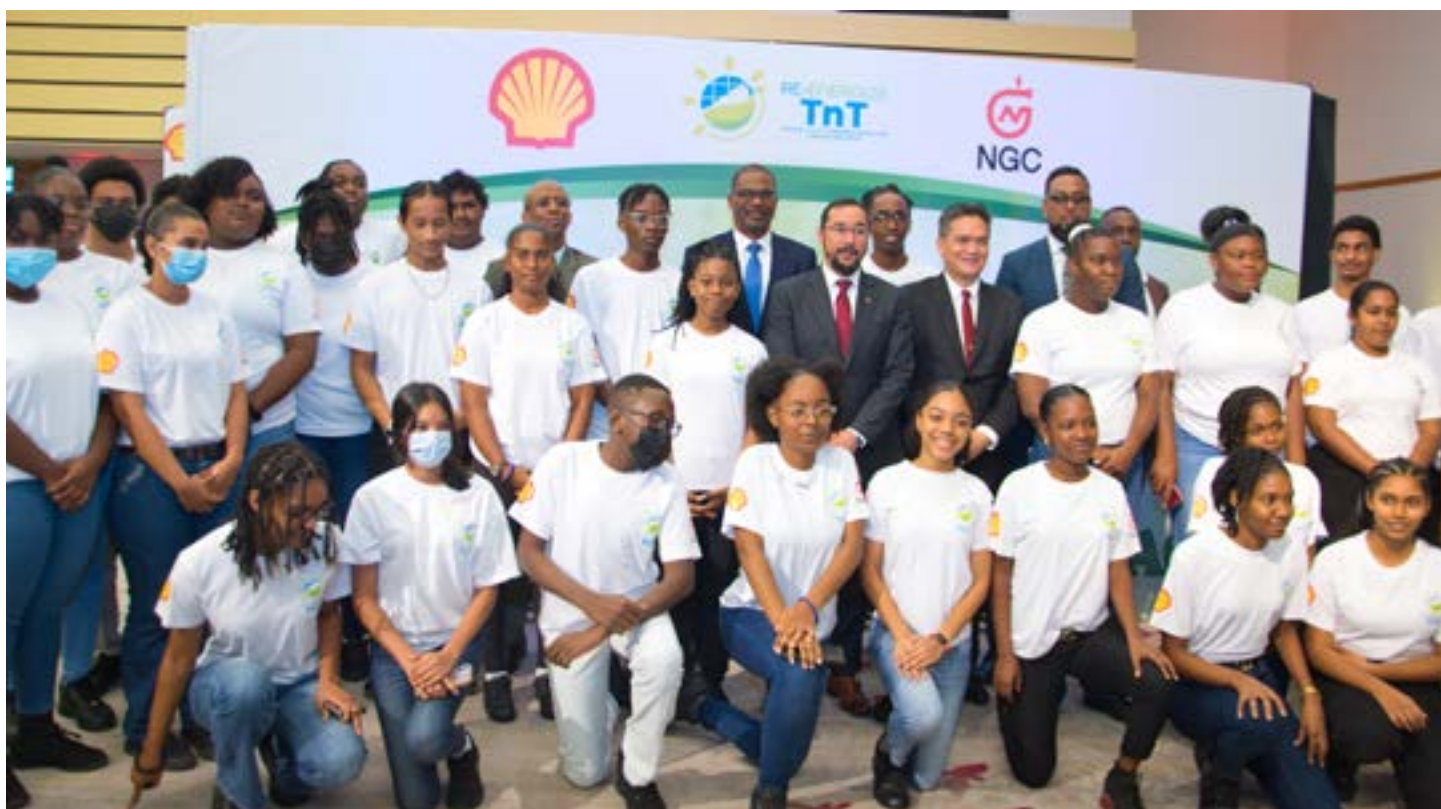


KEY TAKEAWAYS

NGC and Shell are partnering on an energy education initiative called Re-Energize TnT which aims to prepare students across the country to become advocates for energy conservation and efficiency.

Central topics of the Re-Energize TnT curriculum are renewable energy, energy efficiency, energy conservation, advocacy and community mobilisation.

The programme comprises five components, which will be delivered at two schools each year for three years, starting with the Mayaro Government Secondary School and Woodbrook Secondary School



The Hon. Stuart Young, Minister of Energy and Energy Industries, along with Re-Energize TnT sponsors, pose for a picture with the students of Woodbrook Secondary and Mayaro Secondary Schools

Climate change is real and Trinidad and Tobago is experiencing its effects. This message was clearly articulated by The Hon. Stuart Young, Minister of Energy and Energy Industries and Minister in the Office of the Prime

Minister, at the November 2022 launch of "Re-Energize TnT" - an energy education initiative being hosted jointly by Shell Trinidad and Tobago Limited (Shell) and NGC. The programme aims to prepare students across the country

to become advocates for energy conservation and efficiency. The first cohort of participants comprises students from Mayaro Government Secondary School and Woodbrook Secondary School.



Students were eager to chat with Eugene Okpere, Senior VP and Country Chair - Shell, and Mark Loquan, President — NGC.

As explained by Shell Senior Vice President and Country Chairman, Eugene Okpere in his address at the launch event, Re-Energize TnT was conceptualised by Shell to help prepare society to address the "Energy Trilemma". Mr. Okpere stated,

"We need to quickly find the balance in what can appear to be conflicting components of the Energy Trilemma — providing the energy that humanity needs to thrive — that needs to be more affordable, more secure and cleaner."

He challenged the youths to show courage and to collaborate to find solutions to the complex issues around the energy transition, which

would require involvement of government, business, civil society and the general population.

In his address to the students, President of NGC, Mark Loquan, indicated that the Re-Energize TnT programme fits well into NGC's Green Agenda — an integrated portfolio of carbon reduction and sustainability initiatives.

He urged the students to use the knowledge they are acquiring in the programme to keep the momentum of climate change going, as the target of "net-zero by 2050" would require years of sustained climate mitigation and adaptation if it is to be achieved.

He reminded the audience of the gravity of the task at hand and the significant role the youth will play in shaping the future, stating,

"If we connect our youth with information, if we can inspire them to get involved in this climate fight — this world war — then we can salvage their future".

A common thread that was interwoven through all the remarks was Trinidad and Tobago's position as a leader in the energy transition. This country has harnessed its pioneering spirit since the 1970s, determining to utilise the transition fuel of natural gas for industrial development, while many developed states are still utilising coal and crude oil.

ON THE GREEN AGENDA

Minister Young urged the students to feel proud of their country and to find ways to keep natural gas — the cleanest fossil fuel — at the forefront of industry while simultaneously developing renewable energy.

ABOUT THE PROGRAMME

Key to achieving the goal of responsible and balanced industrial development are energy efficiency and energy conservation, central topics of the Re-Energize TnT curriculum.

The programme comprises five components, which will be delivered at two schools each year for three years. Under Component 1, students will be exposed to 15 modules on a wide range of sustainability topics. The programme is certified by the Association of Business Executives (ABE) and students completing the modules will receive ABE certificates.

Component 1 Training Modules

- The importance of energy
- Traditional (fossil fuels) and non-traditional fuels
- T&T's carbon footprint
- What is energy conservation and efficiency
- Conducting an energy audit
- The Paris Agreement and T&T's carbon reduction commitment
- Introduction to renewable energy
- Climate-smart agriculture
- Introduction to solar energy
- Introduction to wind energy
- Introduction to biofuels
- The future of transportation: electric vehicles
- Advocacy and community mobilisation
- Presentation skills
- Stakeholder engagement

In Component 2, the students who have completed the training modules will compete to determine the school that achieves the greater reduction in its energy usage. This will involve conducting energy audits and development of energy consumption reduction plans. The winning school will receive a solar photovoltaic system and LED lights to be installed at the school. The top-performing students will also receive individual awards throughout the programme.

Component 3 Training includes:

- Presentation and advocacy skills
- Stakeholder engagement
- Community mobilisation
- Project design and implementation

Component 3 is centred around the "Idea Incubator" in which they will collaborate with subject matter experts to conduct research and design a community-based renewable energy project to address a problem in a specific community. At the end of each year, students from the winning school will be invited to participate in the Idea Incubator, where they will benefit from training related to community engagement and project development.

Component 4 will empower the students to implement the green initiatives that they designed in the Idea Incubator. Students will be required to present a proposal for the initiatives, and a panel comprising Shell, NGC and programme facilitators from Renew T&T, will select the most feasible project to be implemented. The aim is to execute three green initiatives by the end of the three-year programme.

Component 5 of Re-Energize TnT seeks to engage communities, the energy industry and the public through an ongoing awareness campaign to be delivered through social media, newsletters, events and webinars throughout the project. Subject matter experts and key agencies will be engaged to share their knowledge and experience on energy efficiency, renewable energy, sustainability and sustainable financing, among others. The goal is to engender conversation around sustainability issues that would lead to attitudinal and behavioural change and collaboration to implement solutions.

Based on the testimonials given by the students in 2022, Re-Energize TnT is off to a promising start. Programme sponsors Shell and NGC are pleased to invest in the youth, who have the capacity to create a cleaner, more prosperous and happier future for our nation and the world. ■



The audience views a video presentation on the Re-Energize TnT programme.