VOLUME 12 DECEMBER 2022



BEYONDERDE DE LINE A Newsletter for Our Pipeline Communities

Creating Development Opportunities

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NGC's 'Inspire-2-Achieve' Programme Reviving Community Basketball

Small Steps to Change

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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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Managing Editor:	Nicola J. Ghouralal Head Communications and Brand
Sub-editor:	Natasha Harrichand-Kooarsingh Public Relations Officer
Design and Layout:	Lonsdale Saatchi and Saatchi Advertising Limited

For feedback and comments, please contact natasha.harrichand-kooarsingh@ngc.co.tt or call us at 636-4662/4680





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BEYOND THE PIPELINE VOLUME 12 DECEMBER 2022

THE NGC GROUP OF COMPANIES

Message from the Senior Manager, Corporate Sustainability

Creating Development Opportunities

Sustainability and Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) are business strategies whereby organisations make a conscious effort to conduct their operations in a way that benefits society and the environment. To develop and improve programmes that will benefit employees, communities, and the nation, NGC continues to diligently work with its stakeholders even before and even after the pandemic.

Our CSR initiatives clearly demonstrate our dedication to enhancing society, and we have been working hard to create value for our people through that portfolio. Among our signature CSR initiatives for 2022, are our NGC's Youth Elite Programme (June); an initiative to promote community basketball (August); NGC Bocas Lit Fest UK Tour (October); a youth development programme, 'Inspire to Achieve' (I2A) (November); sponsorship of Physical Literacy Leads Training; and completion of the NGC/MIC-IT Pan Manufacturing and Tuning programme (December). You will learn more about our involvement later in this issue.

Helping Trinidad and Tobago confront climate change and meet its emission reduction goals through the NGC Group Green Agenda is another priority. By the end of 2022, we have made significant progress on that front, having sponsored the inaugural Caribbean Green Infrastructure Conference, supported seedling distribution drives in Couva, Guayaguayare and Rio Claro, and donated grow boxes and hydroponic equipment to primary schools in our fenceline communities. We were also recognised by an international organisation for our commitment to reducing methane emissions from our business.

As always, we aim to carry our communities with us on our journey of growth. As we pursue our Green Agenda, we have made it our mission to educate the national public through as many platforms as possible, to encourage others to join the climate fight. To that end, we have developed several



LISA MARIA BURKETT SENIOR MANAGER, CORPORATE SUSTAINABILITY, NGC

communication products aimed at increasing public knowledge of the energy transition, alternative fuels, renewable energy, and energy efficiency. Our 'Small Steps to Change' feature in this newsletter is one of those products as our Sustainability posters.

We share this newsletter in hopes that it will give you a better understanding of the work we have been doing to support our national community. On behalf of NGC, I take this opportunity to wish you and your families a happy and prosperous new year.

Report

Lisa Maria Burkett Senior Manager, Corporate Sustainability, NGC

NGC's Youth Elite Programme Athletes Shine at National Open Championships 2022

CSR SPORT

NGC renewed its contribution to sport by continuing its sponsorship of the National Association of Athletics Administrations of Trinidad and Tobago (NAAATT) Championship Series - an annual competition season in which our country's best young athletes (juniors, juveniles, and seniors) compete at the national level.

These games are an invaluable platform for exposure and development and have produced athletes who have gone on to represent Trinidad and Tobago at regional and international levels. Following the pandemic's disruption of sporting events, the National Open Championships and the National Junior Championships resumed in 2022.

NGC also sponsors the NGC/NAAA Youth Elite Programme (YEP). The YEP, launched in 2017, aims to facilitate the holistic development of young track and field athletes between the ages of 14 and 20, who have been identified as having 'podium potential' by 2024.

These athletes were selected based on their performance in local, regional and international games in 2016.

The curriculum is designed to help these athletes attain excellence in track and field, while emphasising the significance of having an all-round academic and life skills foundation.

The Open Championships held in June 2022 did not disappoint the track and field supporters who came to cheer on our young athletes.

One of the main highlights was the performance of Jereem 'The Dream' Richards. He achieved the fastest time







Athletes compete at National Open Championships 2022



Some of our young athletes at Junior Championships 2022

ever recorded on local soil in the men's 200-metre event. Richards clocked 19.83 seconds to set a new championship record, personal best and secure IAAF World Championships qualification. This was also his first sub-20-second performance for the 2022 season. Another remarkable performance was delivered by Keshorn Walcott. He smashed the javelin meet record on the opening night. The 2012 Olympic javelin champion threw the spear 85.17 metres to break the meet record of 84.96 metres and also achieve the World Championship standard of 85.00 meters.

Reviving Community Basketball



In the 1990s, NGC partnered with the National Basketball Federation of Trinidad and Tobago (NBFTT), the governing body for basketball, to sponsor the NGC Community Basketball League.

The league excited and engaged communities across Trinidad and Tobago. Participation grew rapidly from seven communities and 42 teams with 400 players in 1994, to 32 communities and 192 teams with over 2,000 players in 1997.

Basketball participation decreased in the years following the end of NGC's sponsorship of the league. However, the 'Be the Change Movement,' led by Mr. Jeffery Harris, a teacher at the Pleasantville Secondary School, aims to bring back community basketball through the NGC-sponsored Hoop Nation 'Ball All Day' community basketball competition.

The Hoop Nation 'Ball All Day' campaign aims to promote Trinidad and Tobago's



basketball talent both locally and internationally. The organisation decided to establish the Hoop Nation Academy https://encouraging and inspirational. The Travel Team, which it would use to stage basketball competitions in select communities.

Anyone who was interested in participating, (if their team had five or more members) was eligible to participate in the tournament. The activities were held on Saturday evenings from 5:00 pm until 9:30 pm. Twenty communities were targeted in 2022. The following communities hosted 'Ball All Day' tournaments in 2022:

- Roy Joseph, San Fernando
- La Horquetta
- **Diego Martin**
- Maloney Gardens
- Broadway, San Fernando
- Enterprise, Chaguanas
- Saint Barbs, Laventille
- St Paul Street, Port of Spain
- La Romaine
- Shaw Park, Tobago



According to Mr. Harris, the general public's responses were extremely crowds were involved and thoroughly entertained. Veteran players have praised the organisers for their efforts to restore the game of basketball and other communities have reached out to request a visit.

NGC's contributions have assisted the organisation to purchase new equipment and uniforms, and host award ceremonies for the communities







NGC Sponsors Physical Literacy Leads Training



Kabir Hosein and Tracy Lockwood from Sport for Life and Right on Track coaches in training in Valsayn

NGC partnered with Sport for Life (S4L) to conduct the Physical Literacy Leads Training programme for NGC Right on Track (ROT) Coaches and Ministry of Education (MOE) Teachers.

The goal of the training is to strengthen the skill set of designated lead coaches so they can assist in promoting physical literacy and boosting physical activity in primary schools and communities in Trinidad and Tobago. The training was held on December 7th, 8th and 9th, 2022.

As a nationally recognised not-for-profit organisation, Sport for Life's mission is to create a future where everyone has the opportunity to develop physical literacy and access quality sport and physical activity programmes.

The format for the training included:

- Physical Literacy Mentor in attendance in Trinidad to reinforce learning and provide practical examples.
- 2. Presentations from physical literacy education.
- 3. Training manual provided in PDF format to each participant.

NGC is passionate about sport, which has been part of our CSR investment portfolio for over 20 years. We are especially ardent as it relates to sports and its positive impact on our younger nationals. It is a well-known fact that sport adds value to the primary school life of kids, contributing to their physical, social, and mental well-being of students.



Kabir goes through the paces



Team listens intently to Tracy Lockwood



Practical exercises were part of the training

NGC Bocas Lit Fest UK Tour 2022



26 October to 3 November 🦐

#bocas2022 #bocasUK22



Some images from NGC Bocas Lit UK Tour

NGC proudly partnered with Bocas Lit Fest to present the Bocas UK Tour 2022. NGC Bocas Lit Fest is the Caribbean's signature festival of words, stories, and ideas.

The UK tour consisted of a series of events featuring stellar writers from across the Caribbean.

It was held in five cities across the UK and showcased contemporary Caribbean literary talent, including a special event, a day-long programme at the British Library in London with two dozen writers.

NGC's 'Inspire-2-Achieve' (I2A) Programme

NGC believes that positive youth development programmes strengthen young people's sense of identity, belief in the future, self-regulation, and self-efficacy as well as their social, emotional, cognitive, and behavioral competence. This belief underwrote NGC's launch of a signature programme, 'Inspire 2Achieve' or 'I2A', on November 19th, 2022.

The I2A programme aims to encourage well-rounded growth and open a wider range of career and entrepreneurial options to young people, which are focused on the 'green' and sustainable economies and communities of the future.

I2A is a flagship initiative that targets youth in NGC's fenceline communities by providing after-school (and



weekend) skills training and education in the following learning tracks:

- Science, Technology, Research, Engineering, Arts and Math (STREAM)
- Sustainability
- Entrepreneurship
- Life Skills and Career Coaching



Mr. Mark Loquan, President NGC and Xhaiden Darius, calypsonian from La Brea

The programme starts in January 2023 in the La Brea community with the onboarding of 100 young persons between the ages of 7 and 17. Live classroom instruction, organised field trips, interactive gaming, and learning materials maintained on a computer learning management system will all be used in the programme. It will also include live community demonstration projects that will give participants a chance to share their newly acquired knowledge and abilities with others in the community.

The specific outcomes and impacts targeted by I2A include:

- Improved attitudes and increased participation in STREAM fields and careers, particularly amongst girls
- Increased interest in and likelihood of pursuing a career in sustainability
- Improved education and awareness around environmental issues and the promotion of responsible behaviours towards preservation of the environment
- Increased skills for creative and innovative thinking to support participants in identifying novel business opportunities
- Improved ability to become resilient in the face of life challenges, and to make sound personal decisions on matters that could impact one's future.

NGC/MIC-IT Pan Manufacturing and Tuning Graduates



Left to Right standing - Natalie Phipps-Flemming, Social Responsibility Officer, NGC, Myles Lewis, Head, Corporate Social Responsibility,NGC, Mark Loquan, President NGC, Lisa Burkett, Senior Manager, Corporate Sustainability,NGC, Professor Imbert, Julius Wilson, Nathan Lagnaigne, Len Villareol and Alister Narinesingh, Corporate Social Responsibility Officer, NGC.

Left to Right sitting - starting from your left, Kymbalie Carrington-Scope, Kervin Scope, Victor Daniel, Akiela Thorpe and Mikhail Rodriguez.

In December 2022, NGC hosted a graduation dinner for the NGC/MIC-IT Pan Manufacturing and Tuning graduates.

With three title-sponsored bands and as a partner of the steelpan industry, NGC recognises the importance of education and training to the sustainability of our country's national instrument. In 2018, NGC signed a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) with the MIC Institute of Technology (MIC-IT) for the delivery of a customised Mechanical Engineering Technology with Steelpan Manufacturing Programme. In September 2022, after surmounting the many challenges presented by the Covid-19 pandemic, six members from NGC-sponsored bands - successfully completed the programme.

"The opportunity that NGC and MIC-IT has provided me to expand on my craft as a pannist has been invaluable. I am eager to apply my newly gained knowledge on pan manufacturing and tuning not only to benefit my band and the larger steelpan industry, but also to continue growing and honing my individual skills" – Victor Daniel, La Brea Nightingales.

The triumph of the six newly trained pan artisans deserves special recognition as the group persevered through the many physical restrictions and periods of lockdown during the Covid-19 pandemic. Despite the unexpected constraints, the pannists remain committed to their learning and were trained in the areas of sinking and counter sinking, marking, grooving, setting/backing cutting and tuning of the steelpan.

Plans for 2023 include a mentorship programme, which will allow the trainees to benefit from the tutelage of experienced pan tuners as they put their skills and knowledge to practice in the field. MIC-IT's Chief Executive Officer, Mr. Anil Ramnarine remarked that "This programme was developed specifically with NGC's vision for sustaining the steelpan industry. We are honoured to create and deliver such a programme via education and training by some of the best in the industry."

NGC President, Mr. Mark Loguan, commented on the potential impact training programmes such as these could have on the industry. He emphasised the importance of making the required investment to develop the skill set within the pan fraternity as a means of building a generative industry. "The successful completion of the Mechanical Engineering Technology with Steelpan Manufacturing Programme adds to NGC's motivation to continue its involvement with the national instrument. NGC's investment in the training of its sponsored bands is simultaneously an investment in the industry as a whole, as graduates can go on to specialise and service the national market."

Green Corner NGC sponsors Caribbean Green Infrastructure Conference 2022

We have seen the increasing need to adapt our built environment to our changing climate and escalating weather events such as heavier and more frequent rainfall and flooding. In the Caribbean region alone, countries have suffered billions of dollars in losses over the past few years due to destructive hurricanes and flooding. These challenges are projected to become more acute over the coming years, which means as a region we need to focus on strengthening the resilience of our built environment. Green infrastructure, or building with and alongside nature, is one option we can leverage.

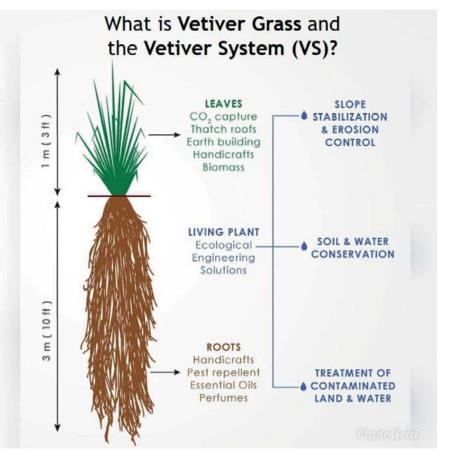
This is the reason behind NGC's decision to sponsor IAMovement's first Caribbean Green Infrastructure Conference 2022. The hybrid event was hosted at the Hilton Trinidad and Conference Centre on October 25th and 26th, 2022.

The forum's main objectives were to:

- Introduce attendees to the uses and applications of green infrastructure technologies
- Build interest and capacity through shared technical knowledge and technical applications
- Create a unique, rich environment for networking and sharing information related to green infrastructure technologies
- Sharing financing mechanism opportunities, locally and regionally.

Ramesh Harrylal, Vice President Operations and Tracey A. Weekes, Manager Financial and Strategic Investment, NGC, participated on the first day of the conference.

IAMovement presented information on how the Vetiver System (VS) solutions may be used as a green infrastructure tool in a variety of applications to address several development difficulties that are related to the climate.



VS explained

Vetiver grass is a perennial grass that can withstand a wide range of temperatures ranging from 0 to 50 degrees Celsius. It is certified noninvasive by the US Department of Agriculture (USDA), fire tolerant and has a deep and fibrous root system which can extend to 10 feet (3 m) deep within two years. The average tensile strength of vetiver roots is 75 MPa which is some 5-7 times greater than most grasses.

VS refers to the best practice methods for use of vetiver grass as a bioengineering tool to solve many land and water-related challenges. Depending on situation needs, it can be implemented alone, or in combination with other traditional hard-engineered solutions (such as retaining walls, gabion baskets, geotextiles, etc). Each VS solution is unique, but entails:

- Slope grade design and recommendation where required, and earthworks-grading
- Vetiver plants preparation and installation
- Upstream and surrounding surface water management
- Maintenance during
 establishment
- Where required, combined solutions with complementing techniques such as gabion baskets, geotextiles, swales, silt fences, coconut matting, other plants, etc.
- Soil testing and application of fertilizers and soil amendments
- Irrigation systems during dry season establishment
- Water testing and applications for contaminated water treatment.



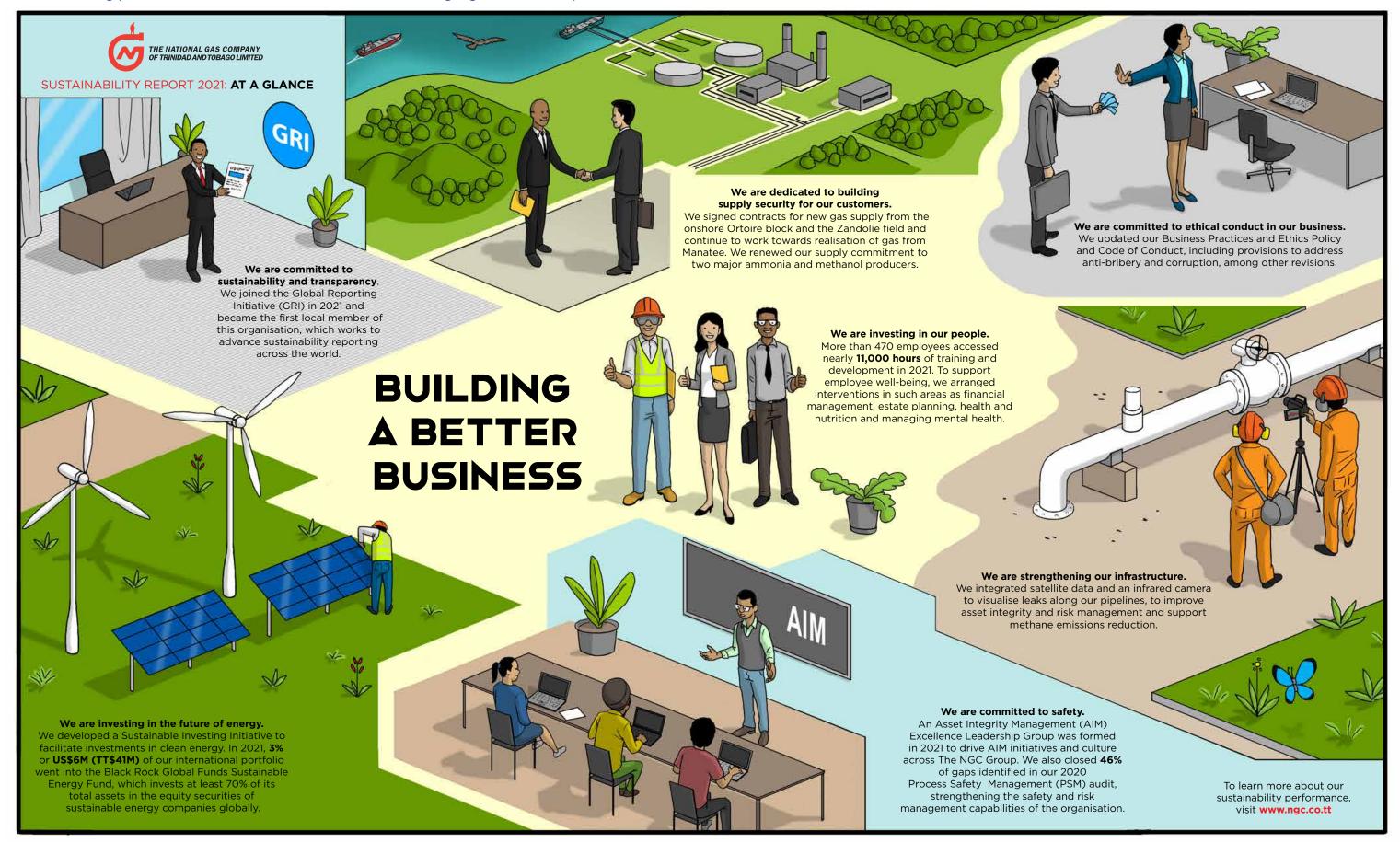
NGC's Sustainability Report 2021

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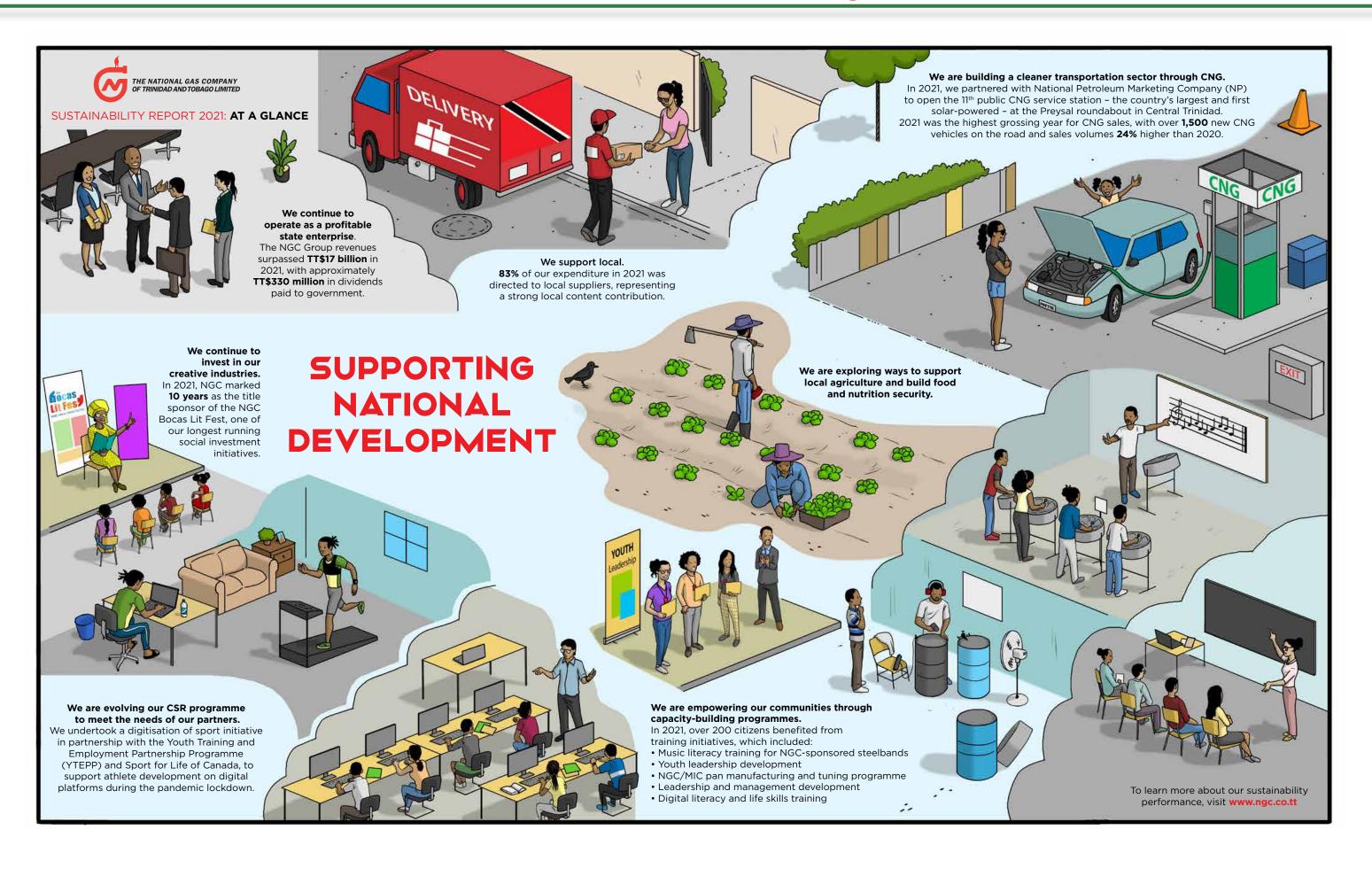
Sustainability reporting is a mechanism which allows companies to voluntarily disclose details of the economic, social, governance and environmental impacts of their business, guided by an international reporting standard and or supports achievement of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). In October 2022, NGC published its 5th annual Sustainability Report, covering the year 2021. CSR SUSTAINABILITY



The following posters summarise some of the achievements highlighted in that report.







OUR

GREEN

AGENDA

THE NATIONAL GAS COMPANY OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO LIMITED

SUSTAINABILITY REPORT 2021: AT A GLANCE

We have articulated the following targets in support of Trinidad and Tobago's Paris Agreement commitments:

- By 2030, to attain **30%** of Trinidad and Tobago's market share for renewable energy and energy efficiency business
- By 2030, to achieve a **75%** reduction in venting of methane, and **50%** reduction of fugitive methane emissions
- By 2030, to achieve 2% of Trinidad and Tobago's Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) target for greenhouse gas (GHG) reduction
- By 2040, to achieve **30%** of Trinidad and Tobago's NDCs target for GHG reduction
- By 2050, to achieve carbon neutrality across The NGC Group

We are committed to greening our business.

We set a target of **10%** reduction in energy consumption from 2019 levels by 2022. We also aim to achieve an overall reduction of 75% in venting methane emissions and 50% in fugitive methane, as well as a **50% reduction** in overall GHG emissions by 2025, compared to 2021.

> We have already made important contributions to national emissions reduction. Trees planted during our reforestation programme have sequestered more than 27,000 tonnes of CO₂ as at 2021. Meanwhile, over **44,000 tonnes** of CO₂ emissions have been avoided thanks to CNG since 2014.

> > NK

We joined the global Oil and Gas Methane Partnership (OGMP), whose members voluntarily commit to reporting and reducing methane emissions in the oil and gas sector.

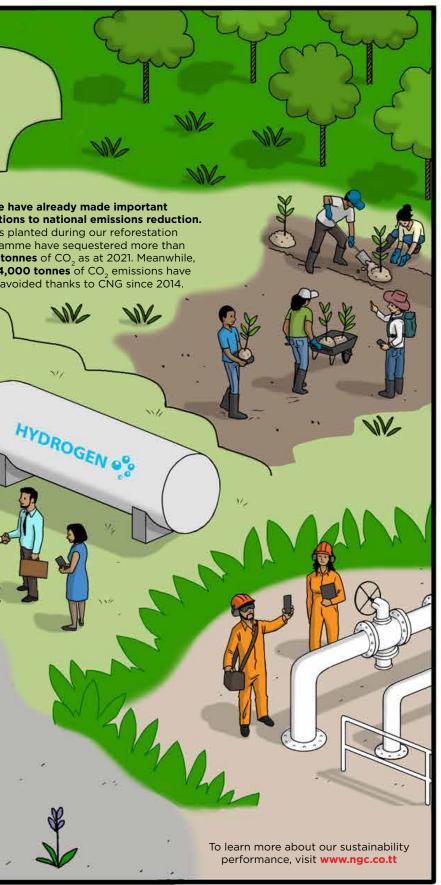
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We are partnering on green energy projects. Together with the Trinidad and Tobago Solid Waste Management Company Limited (SWMCOL) we are exploring opportunities to put landfill gas to productive use. We are also working with Kenesjay Green Limited (KGL) on the creation of a sustainable hydrogen economy.



We are educating our people about clean energy. We launched a new website called CariGreen, to serve as a central repository for investor, academic and citizen research into clean energy in the Caribbean. This follows our consumer app Energy SmarTT, launched in 2020 to help citizens learn about energy efficiency.



CSR ARTS AND CULTURE

SMALL STEPS TOCHANGE

Reducing Plastic Waste

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Why is it important?

Plastic waste is a growing problem in the Caribbean and globally. While it is an important material for our economy, plastic can take thousands of years to degrade.

It takes up valuable space in landfill sites and pollutes the environment with a significant impact on our oceans.

By 2050, there will be a tonne of plastic for every tonne of fish

(Recycling technologies)

Why do we need to reduce plastic waste?

Plastic is everywhere. It is strong, light, cheap and very versatile. The majority of plastic waste does not get reused or recycled and experts believe that 50% of plastic is single use, meaning it is used once before being discarded. Single-use plastic includes plastic water bottles, plastic packaging, plastic grocery bags, and so on.

Most types of plastic are in fact recyclable, but the process is energy-intensive. Recycling plastic not only requires large amounts of energy but also uses large guantities of water. While getting rid of

plastic waste is a primary environmental problem, the production process is a leading cause of carbon emissions contributing to global warming. It takes a lot of energy and resources to make plastic, with more than 90% being produced from fossil fuel resources. Experts believe that if current trends continue, in 30 years' 20% of global oil consumption and 15% of global carbon emissions will be associated with plastic production. Creating bottled water takes 2,000 times the energy it does to produce tap water! (Wonderopolis).

Tips for Reducing Your Plastic Waste



Use a reusable bag when shopping. A single plastic bag can take 1,000 years to degrade.



Pack your lunch in reusable containers and



Advocate for reducing plastic as stopping use of Styrofoam food containers and one-use water





Use a reusable bottle or mug for your beverages.



Reuse plastic packaging when possible.



Patronise food outlets that use It shows they are aware and are doing their part to be conscientious.

Don't use face wash or toothpaste with micro beads as the plastic beads can go down the drain, eventually flow into rivers and threaten sea



Stop using plastic straws. If you need a straw purchase a reusable or paper straw.



Use a razor with instead of disposable razors.

When dining or entertaining at home don't use plastic plates, cutlery or cups.



Bring your own non-plastic or container for restaurant take out and request that restaurants do no pack plastic ware for your meals.

Caring for Environmental Spaces — Seedling Distribution Drives

To raise awareness of and educate stakeholders about the need to build food security in Trinidad and Tobago, the SURE Foundation and NGC partnered on seedling distribution drives in two communities this year. The 'Caring for Environmental Spaces' seedling distribution drives took place on September 10th in Balmain, September 17th in Rio Claro, and October 8th in Couva. Over 75,000 vegetable and herb seedlings were distributed over those three days. Additionally, grow boxes were donated to the Rio Claro Presbyterian School, Guayaguayare Primary School, Esperanza Presbyterian Primary School, California Government Primary School and Couva South Government Primary School.

Trinidad and Tobago presently spends roughly TT\$6.4 billion per year on food imports. Encouraging communities and schools to get involved in agriculture will go a long way to help reduce that bill. Moreover, given our ageing agricultural workforce, it is critical to encourage youth interest in and participation in agriculture.

More on SURE

To help lessen the carbon footprint connected to our developed energy industry, the SURE Foundation has presented a National Decarbonisation Strategy. The foundation understands how important the environment is when making plans for long-term economic growth. They aim to plant 1 million plants around the nation.

The SURE Foundation has been delivering several initiatives to engage young persons from community groups, primary and secondary schools, and encourage them to consider alternative perspectives on food security.



Member of SURE Foundation advertises free seedling availability



The SURE Foundation's initiatives for 2022 included:

- Seedling distribution drives
- Installing a basic hydroponic system at three selected schools within NGC's fenceline schools
- Supply seedlings where space is available for schools to have grow beds/grow boxes
- Recycling initiatives

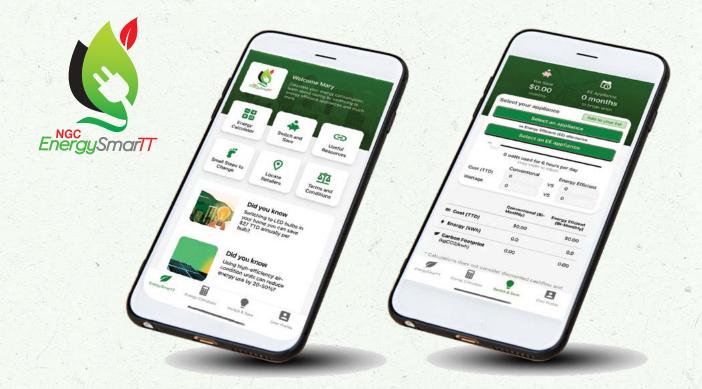


Some objectives of NGC's partnership with the SURE Foundation are:

- To undertake agricultural production and marketing within the school community in a systematic way through collaboration with the Parent Teachers Association (PTA)
- To encourage agricultural
 entrepreneurship and innovation
- To encourage students to design supporting projects for any of the following associated with agricultural sustainability initiatives, such as:
 - Recycling/upcycling
 - Composting
 - Food service
 - Technology, agricultural apps/ games

NGC's EnergySmarTT App

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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 insights into their individual carbon footprint. The app 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.

To download the NGC EnergySmartTT app for free, please visit:

- Google Play
- Apple App Store

The 'My Consumption' feature which 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.



- 1. The NGC Group of Companies developed the "Inspire-2-Achieve" or "I2A" programme. True or False?
- 2. The Inspire-2-Achieve initiative of NGC is aimed towards young people. With an emphasis on the 'green' and sustainable economies and communities of the future, it seeks to promote balanced growth and open up a wider range of entrepreneurial and employment opportunities. True or False?
- NGC's I2A programme is scheduled to start in January 2023 in St. Augustine. True or False?

- 4. Plastic waste is a widely recognised problem. True or False?
- 5. The Youth Elite Programme (YEP) and Championship Series are two of NGC's signature sponsorships. True or False?
- 6. For track and field fans who came to support our young athletes, the Open Championships in June 2022 were disappointing. True or False?
- NGC was the title sponsor of IAMovement's Caribbean Green Infrastructure Conference 2022. True or False?

- 8. NGC's EnergySmarTT app is the country's first mobile app that can be used as an energy education tool for anyone to gain customised insights into their individual carbon footprint. True or False?
- 9. Dedicated to providing Caribbean-based programming, Banyan was not the first television station in the Englishspeaking Caribbean that was owned and run by Caribbean nationals. True or False?
- 10. The SURE Foundation, an NGO which operates in Trinidad and Tobago, has launched a National Decarbonisation Strategy to help reduce the carbon footprint associated with our mature energy sector. True or False?



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NGC ACHIEVE

NGC ACH

