

# The imperative of adaptation

When we talk about climate action, much of the discourse is focused on the need to reduce our net carbon emissions — the tipping points we must watch, ‘quick-win’ opportunities to cut our output, and broader systemic changes that must be initiated if long-term ambitions are to be realised.

However, even as we take action today to change the current and future global emissions profile, we cannot soon escape the cumulative impact of carbon emitted since the age of industrialisation. We must accept that some damage has already been done, and we need to focus equal attention on building a strong defence through climate change adaptation strategies.

The meteorology of our planet is changing rapidly, with concerning implications for agricultural cycles and soils, the biosphere, human settlement patterns and the integrity of our built environment. While we work in earnest to prevent further deterioration of climate stability, we need to start adapting our habits and habitats so we can build more resilient societies and continue to meet our basic human needs for food and shelter in a warmer, wetter world.

This month, NGC launched a new portal called the Climate Adaptation and Resilience Portal (CARP), which aims to inform the kind of proactive planning that will allow us to pivot in response to climate-driven changes.



It includes information and alerts on hazards such as flooding, sea-level rise, landslips, riverine alerts, coastal erosion, maritime alerts, bush fires, air quality, seismic activity, deforestation and other emerging threats related to climate change.

In this issue of *GASCO News*, we share more information about the intent and content of this portal. We also extend the conversation around adaptation, exploring in greater detail some of the ways our society may need to evolve to thrive in the midst of new climatic and environmental conditions.

Of particular concern is the potential impact of higher temperatures on human health. Heat-related illness, migration of disease-carrying vectors and weakened food and nutrition security are all threats that must be on our radar. Insofar as possible, we must build our defences against them.

Of course, it must be emphasised that a focus on adaptation is not an admission of defeat. We are still intent on winning the climate fight, and we continue to actively pursue every possible avenue to shrink our carbon footprint.

For us at NGC, this means strengthening our core business, since natural gas remains an important fuel in the transition to a low-carbon energy future. An intensive asset integrity management campaign is allowing us to reduce losses of natural gas and methane from our pipeline network. The lessons we have learnt along our journey are instructive for any company managing similar assets, and we are resolved to share our insights and technologies to help others achieve similar gains.

We also continue to explore options for supporting the regional clean energy transition through micro-LNG projects. Displacing some of oil's market share in the energy mix will positively impact the collective emissions output of our region.

It is our hope that the stories in this issue shed some light on topics of great interest and importance to our company, and indeed, our planet as a whole.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Mark Loquan'.

**Mark Loquan**  
President