



**The National Gas Company of Trinidad and Tobago Limited
Media Release**

NGC presents at the Energy Chamber's Local Content Forum 2021

November 19, 2021

On November 17th 2021, The National Gas Company of Trinidad and Tobago Limited (NGC) joined industry partners for exchange and discussion at the Energy Chamber of Trinidad and Tobago's Local Content Forum 2021.

This event aimed to bring members together to provide updates on progress made over the past twelve months, in furtherance of the Local Content Charter signed in 2020. This Charter represented a commitment by signatory companies to work collaboratively to increase local content in Trinidad and Tobago, through local procurement of goods and services, and the implementation of policies and programmes to help build local supplier competitiveness, inter alia. Alongside the Charter, the Local Content Management System (LCMS) was also launched in 2020, to assess suppliers on their local content participation and estimate what proportion of the money spent to purchase goods and services remains within the national economy.

As a sponsor of the event, NGC was invited to deliver remarks and share a presentation on the Company's integration of the LCMS into its operations. President Mark Loquan shared his thoughts on the value of local content to the economy, particularly in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic.

"In 2020, we found ourselves in a position where self-sufficiency was currency. We became more reliant on local goods, inventoried supplies and local service providers. It became clear that having local capacity to produce and to deliver services is fundamental to ensuring our resilience in the face of national disruption. Without this capacity, our success as a nation will always hinge on external inputs and support. This places our future and fortunes in the hands of others and can jeopardise our sustainability over the long term."

Mr. Loquan acknowledged that while the energy sector has a strong legacy of local content participation, with NGC being locally led and staffed throughout its history, there remain areas for improvement in procurement and supply chains.

He added that the energy transition presents a unique opportunity to build local expertise and service capacity to cater to emerging market needs, and that NGC will be working closely with industry and academia to achieve that outcome.

Among the areas highlighted from NGC's perspective included were:

- NGC has instituted mechanisms into its Procurement function to help vendors meet prequalification standards when they fall short of requirements.
- NGC has a policy framework for contracts which creates opportunities for local, and where possible, community-based suppliers and contractors.
- NGC has started disclosing its local content performance in its annual Sustainability Reports, with a view to improving its numbers year-on-year.

Sharing more on NGC's experience with local content and its efforts to deepen local participation in the business was David Joseph, NGC's newly appointed Manager of Contracts and Procurement. Mr. Joseph gave an overview of the LCMS and how NGC and its subsidiaries were integrating the system into the business.

Through its contributions at this event, NGC reiterated its commitment to working with the Energy Chamber and other stakeholders to strengthen local participation, value creation and value retention across the energy industry.

For more information:

Lisa Burkett, Manager, Corporate Sustainability

The National Gas Company of Trinidad and Tobago Limited (NGC)

Orinoco Drive, Point Lisas

Lisa.Burkett@ngc.co.tt

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