



The launch of Caribbean Sustain-U, a learning platform to support organisations in accelerating sustainability understanding and action.

Port-of-Spain, Trinidad & Tobago - Oct 12, 2023:

The National Gas Company of Trinidad and Tobago Limited (NGC) and Methanex have partnered to sponsor Sustain-U, a sustainability and ESG (environment, social, governance) training platform developed by Caribbean Ideas Academy.

It is a training platform that will assist organisations and their employees to build sustainability understanding, learn how to quantify impact and take tangible action.

Sustain-U –which was officially launched on 12 October 2023— will help organisations and their employees to build sustainability understanding, learn how to quantify impact, and take tangible action.

It is designed to help accelerate the Caribbean region’s pursuit of the 17 United Nations Sustainable Development Goals with content that addresses learning around issues that currently act as challenges to building and strengthening regional sustainability. These include increased risk of climate-related disasters, —despite our low contribution to greenhouse gas emissions— social issues including crime and poverty, and a pressing need to future proof our institutions to compete more effectively.

“Small island developing states need innovative solutions to achieve sustainable development in order to advance economic growth, improve welfare and preserve the environment for future generations,” said Caribbean Ideas Group CEO Chike Farrell. “We developed Sustain-U because our people are our region’s most important resource. We believe that a learning platform that helps organisations and their employees transition to sustainable practices can accelerate the region overall.”

The Sustain-U curriculum will be broad, looking at more than just environmental issues. The intention is to introduce subscribers to the fundamentals of sustainability across all its dimensions and connect the dots between the academic concepts and real-life impacts.

Beyond the initial launch of the platform, the Caribbean Ideas Academy team will accelerate development of the first wave of Sustain-U training programs for ‘go live’ in early Q1 2024. The training programs will feature experienced practitioners providing intuitive and actionable sustainability insights, using a blend of their practical expertise and understanding of our unique Caribbean context.

Speaking on Sustain-U, NGC President, Mark Loquan noted that “NGC has made education a cornerstone of our Green Agenda - our portfolio of clean energy and sustainability initiatives – because we

understand the nexus between awareness and action. Any initiative that allows us to effectively teach our citizens about climate change, about the energy transition, about sustainable living and development, is an initiative worth backing.” He emphasised “As a company, NGC has a desire to educate our citizens, and the Caribbean Sustainable University – Sustain U – aligns perfectly with that ambition, while offering a unique focus on regional issues and perspectives.”

Sustain-U seeks to develop and bring to market heavily discounted sustainability and ESG (environment, social, governance) training programs for regional organisations and their employees, along with free programs for the community at large.

The training programs being developed over time will include online on-demand courses, interactive online courses, in-person training and experiential projects with a view to providing multiple ways to deliver and embed the learning.

“As the global leader in the methanol industry, Methanex aims to lead the industry in the transition to a low-carbon economy. We are committed to playing an active role in identifying pathways towards a sustainable future and we believe a key driver of this is collaboration and knowledge-sharing.” noted Colin Bain, Methanex’s Trinidad Managing Director. He went on to state “By providing a centralized hub for information exchange and networking, Sustain-U can bring together individuals, businesses, and organizations interested in sustainability. This platform will serve as a virtual meeting place, fostering dialogue, encouraging partnerships, and driving collective action towards a more sustainable future. We are pleased to be among the first 2 founding partners of the Sustain-U initiative, believing that coalition and collaboration provides a powerful path toward achieving sustainability goals.”

More details about Sustain-U can be found at <https://caribbeansustainu.com>. Parties that are interested in collaborating as founding partners, course contributors, or future customers are encouraged to connect via the website or emailing training@caribbeanideas.com

About Caribbean Ideas

The Caribbean Ideas Group has a corporate purpose of helping Caribbean organisations and people to become more globally competitive, sustainable and influential.

The company is headquartered in Trinidad & Tobago, with personnel in Barbados and St. Lucia. Group subsidiaries include Caribbean Ideas Academy, the 3-year old hybrid training company behind Sustain-U, as well as Caribbean Ideas Synapse, an award-winning integrated marketing and communications agency.

Building on a track record of helping organisations achieve targeted market shifts, the group is now heavily focused on applying its unique mix of communications, storytelling and training capabilities to support sustainability behaviour-change.

For more information visit company sites:

<https://caribbeansustainu.com> | <https://caribbeanacademy.com> | <https://getsynapse.agency>

About NGC

The National Gas Company of Trinidad and Tobago Limited (NGC) and its subsidiaries are an integrated group of energy companies operating in Trinidad and Tobago's energy sector, and with a growing presence in other jurisdictions.

A profitable and high-performing state enterprise, parent company, NGC plays a pivotal role in Trinidad and Tobago's gas-based energy sector and is strategically positioned along the entire natural gas value chain. Through its people, investments, strategic partnerships and pioneering gas pricing model, NGC has secured the profitability of the local gas-based energy sector and catalysed the social and economic development of Trinidad and Tobago for four and a half decades.

With a strong history, financials, asset base and human capital, as well as a determination to respond to the imperatives of a greener global energy landscape, NGC and its subsidiaries represent ideal business partners to guide emerging energy territories through their process of development. Incorporated in August 1975 by the Government of Trinidad and Tobago as a 100% state-owned energy company, NGC has evolved into a highly reputable and profitable organisation with a wide-ranging portfolio of energy and nonenergy assets.

For more information visit <https://ngc.co.tt>

About Methanex

Methanex is the world's largest producer and supplier of methanol to major international markets in North America, Asia Pacific, Europe and South America. Headquartered in Vancouver, Canada, Methanex currently operates production sites in Canada, Chile, Egypt, New Zealand, Trinidad and Tobago and the United States. Our global operations are supported by an extensive global supply chain of terminals, storage facilities and the world's largest dedicated fleet of methanol ocean tankers.

The Power of Agility® is our key brand differentiator and is how our global team of approximately 1,400 employees safely and reliably delivers on our brand promise everyday by quickly adapting and responding to our customers' needs and creating and capitalizing on opportunities in the marketplace.

As the world's largest producer of methanol, we have the opportunity to actively participate in the transition to a low carbon economy. Methanol is a cleaner burning fuel that can be used to improve air quality compared to traditional fuels like diesel or coal, and it can also be made from renewable sources.

At Methanex we're committed to upholding the Responsible Care Ethic and Principles for Sustainability and developing low-carbon solutions for our customers.

For more information visit <https://www.methanex.com/about-us/global-locations/trinidad-and-tobago/>

For more information:

Lisa Burkett, Senior 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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Colin Bain, Methanex's Trinidad Managing Director shakes hands with Mark Loquan, NGC President, while Caribbean Ideas Group CEO Chike Farrell looks on.



L to R: Colin Bain, Methanex Trinidad Managing Director; Chike Farrell, Caribbean Ideas Group CEO; Mark Loquan, NGC President