

Restoring the natural and man-made environments

NGC's Community Relations

The National Gas Company of Trinidad and Tobago Limited's (NGC) Corporate Social Responsibility programme emphasizes projects that create sustainable value, for communities and the Nation as a whole. NGC is restoring the natural and man-made environments in two main ways:

- *By building and restoring community facilities*
- *Through a Reforestation Programme, which seeks to return hectares of marginal and depleted forestlands to productive growth*



Guayaguayare Community Centre



The Helena Charles Home for Senior Citizens under construction



Lower Barrackpore Recreation Ground

Facilities Construction

NGC continues to pursue a programme of facilities development and upgrade as a crucial aspect of its policy of assisting in the development of communities. For the past four years, construction and refurbishment works have focused on facilities used for education and training, arts and culture, recreation, community gathering and the provision of social services. These structures are designed to provide improved and comfortable environments for community gatherings and recreation.

In most cases, the projects are carried out in collaboration with governmental agencies and other stakeholders in the villages and settlements. In 2009, eight projects were completed, some in partnership with the relevant regional corporations, energy sector companies, the Ministry of Community Development, Culture and Gender Affairs, the Sport Company of Trinidad and Tobago and the Ministry of Social Development.

Critical projects include:

- The upgrade of the Guayaguayare Community Centre
- The Helena Charles Home for Senior Citizens, La Brea
- The construction of the Lower Barrackpore Recreation Ground
- NLM Drug Rehabilitation Centre jointly refurbished with Phoenix Park Gas Processors Limited (PPGPL) and Petrotrin

In 2010, eight projects are targeted for completion. Of note is that more attention will be given to cultural and recreational facilities in keeping with a vision to improve the quality of life in the communities.

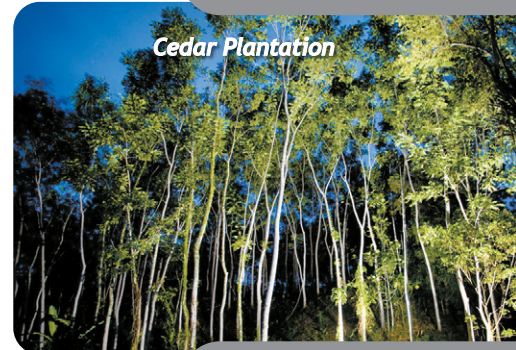
Reforestation Programme

NGC's 10-year Reforestation Programme seeks to rehabilitate depleted forest with mixed hardwood and fruit-bearing tree species as a natural way of sequestering carbon-dioxide emissions, reducing atmospheric greenhouse gas concentrations, improving wildlife habitats and maintaining the country's bio-diversity.

In keeping with its "No Net Loss" Forest Policy, NGC will offset the forests removed during its pipeline and development projects, such as the construction of a new industrial estate at Union, La Brea, a cross-island pipeline and natural gas installation at Guayaguayare, by replanting 315 hectares of forests. NGC's Reforestation Programme will rehabilitate 105 hectares of critically degraded forests that adjoin its



Mahoe Tree



Cedar Plantation



Mahoe Forest

pipeline and gas installation, and 210 hectares of similar forest in the Morne L'Enfer Forest Reserve, La Brea.

During Phase I, 50 hectares were replanted in Grants Trace, Rousillac; Edward Trace, Moruga; Rochard Douglas Teak Plantation and the Guapo/Parrylands/ Morne L'Enfer Forest Reserve. The Company has a mutually beneficial partnership with the Civilian Conservation Corps, which maintains the 7.8 hectares planted in Mayaro. Field audits have revealed a survival rate overall of 88 percent.

In Phase II of the programme, NGC will plant 50 new hectares with some 27,000 hardwood and fruit tree seedlings in the Morne L'Enfer Forest Reserve while maintaining the phase I plantation. The programme will provide workers living in nearby communities with meaningful work as they replant and tend forests, and sustain 'green' organizations that add value to the community. These groups include the Grants Trace Re-Leaf Group, The Women and Men of Agriculture Group, The Guapo Re-Leaf Group and Edward Trace Re-Leaf Group. In 2010, maintenance activities will continue on all sites using these groups.

