



15 June 2023

LABIDCO Plants 400 Trees to Support Trinidad & Tobago's Carbon Reduction Efforts

On Saturday 15th June 2024, La Brea Industrial Development Company Limited (LABIDCO) launched Phase II of its "Plant for a Purpose" initiative, planting 400 trees on five acres of land on the La Brea Industrial Estate.

This initiative is intended to assist the Government of Trinidad and Tobago in meeting its Nationally Determined Contributions to reduce cumulative carbon emissions by 15% in key sectors by 2030. As part of the company's sustainability programme, LABIDCO identified lands on the Estate deemed unsuitable for industrial activity and since 2023, has utilised them for biological carbon sequestration through tree planting. The trees planted today included poui, mahogany, olivier, angelin and mahoe and were selected as they are good carbon sequesters and thrive in most types of soil conditions.

In his feature address, The Hon Stuart Young, Minister of Energy and Energy Industries and Minister in the Office of the Prime Minister, commended LABIDCO for its efforts to contribute to climate change mitigation and supporting Trinidad and Tobago's targets as a signatory to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), and the Paris Agreement. He said while climate change cannot be addressed overnight, initiatives like LABIDCO's "Plant for a Purpose", assist in closing the gaps to achieve the country's overall goal.

Minister Young stated that while Trinidad and Tobago is a hydrocarbon-based economy, the Government "Places equal importance on both mitigation and adaptation efforts, by simultaneously pursuing the development of a low-carbon economy that aligns with our sustainable development objectives." He said, "We have been working assiduously to maintain a balance - energy security while reducing our carbon emissions."

Chairman of LABIDCO, Dr. Joseph Khan stated that LABIDCO's "Plant for a Purpose" initiative exemplifies the company's commitment to implement strategies aimed at tackling environmental issues. He said "Our efforts today are a template for our stakeholders in the community, as well as our partners in energy. We are all beneficiaries of the resources derived from the environment, and we must take commensurate action as primary custodians to be part of the solution and protect the said environment."

In 2023, LABIDCO planted 181 trees on approximately one acre of land. This brings the total number of trees planted through this initiative to 581.



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Caption for Photo – LABIDCO’s Directors take a photo with the Hon Stuart Minister Young. From left: Director Joel Jack, Director Howard Dottin, Chairman Dr. Joseph Khan, the Hon Minister Stuart Young, Dr. Vernon Paltoo, General Manager, LABIDCO, Director Lydia Lee Chong, Director Sandra Fraser and Director Lawrence Arjoon.



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Caption for Photo 2: Minister Young plants a poui tree with LABIDCO's Chairman, Dr. Joseph Khan.

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