



Young urges PPP for carbon capture and storage

WITH 95% of the country's petrochemical plants clustered at the Point Lisas Industrial Estate, Trinidad and Tobago has a unique opportunity for a public-private partnership (PPP) to develop carbon capture and storage (CCS) technology and establish pipeline infrastructure, acting Prime Minister Stuart Young has said.

Young said this during his feature address at the International Carbon Capture and Storage (CCS) Symposium which was hosted at The University of the West Indies' Conference Centre, St Augustine Campus on Friday.

'Carbon capture involves the capturing of anthropogenic waste CO₂, transporting it to a storage site and depositing it into sinks such as geological reservoirs or aquifers, where it cannot enter the atmosphere. Carbon capture and storage can be applied to large point sources such as fossil fuel energy facilities-like the natural gas-powered plants located in Trinidad. After capturing the CO₂, it is then compressed and transported for geological storage,' the energy ministry said.

In sharing his perspective on the conference theme, 'Towards a Net Zero Carbon Future with CCS; Synergizing Stakeholders, Milestones and the Way Forward', Young made a call for there to be a move from conversation to implementation due to the urgency of addressing climate change, within the context of Trinidad and Tobago's hydrocarbon economy and its global exports, a release from the energy ministry stated.

According to the release, Young urged participants at the symposium to leverage the strength of the global conversations that he has been having with organisations such as the European Union (EU), where the negative financial effects of the EU's Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism (CBAM) on smaller states such as Trinidad and Tobago were discussed.

'Minister Young also guided the participants to look at Trinidad and Tobago's infrastructure as a competitive advantage, as 95% our petrochemical plants are located strategically in a cluster at the Point Lisas Industrial Estate, making it perfect for a partnership between the private sector and the Government to build the CCS and then pipeline it,' the release stated.