

Key Credit Highlights



- Strong economic growth continued in 2022, driven by foreign direct investment, industrial production and higher commodity exports; leading indicators show a slowdown going into 2023.
 - Steady annual improvement of public finances: fiscal targets met in 2022, for third year in a row.
 - Tighter monetary policy focused on reducing inflation and anchoring inflation expectations within target band.
 - Stable current account dynamics amid real exchange rate appreciation, and large external buffers; banking sector with strong capitalization, although still-high financial dollarization.
 - Government forges ahead with structural and market-friendly reforms, including social security, public enterprises, education and international trade integration.
 - Uruguay among the top global performers on ESG fundamentals, and is a bastion of institutional, social and political stability with lowest country risk in LATAM.
 - Debt management strategies aimed at de-risking debt portfolio, while keeping borrowing costs contained; sustainable financing strategies aligned with environmental commitments under Paris Agreement.



The economy continued to strengthen in 2022

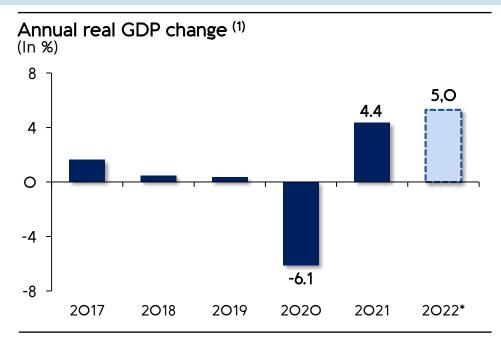




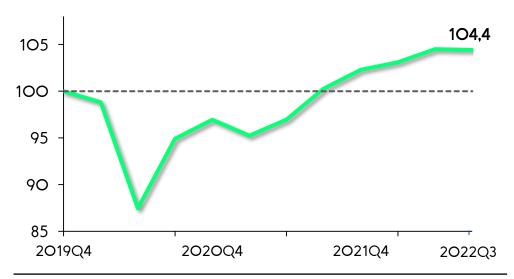


The economy continued to expand in 2022, overperforming pre-pandemic levels; Uruguay leads in GDP per capita in LATAM.

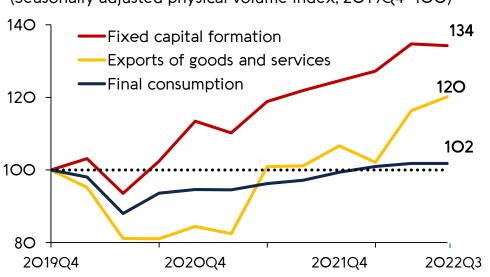




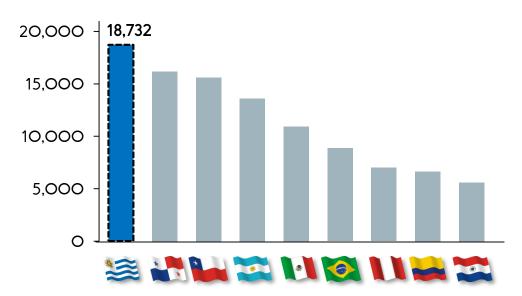
Real GDP ⁽²⁾ (Seasonally adjusted physical volume index, 2019Q4=100)



Components of real GDP demand (2) (Seasonally adjusted physical volume index, 2019Q4=100)



Nominal GDP per capita 2022 (3) (Current prices, US dollars)



⁽¹⁾ Source: Central Bank of Uruguay and latest Minister of Finance projection for 2022.

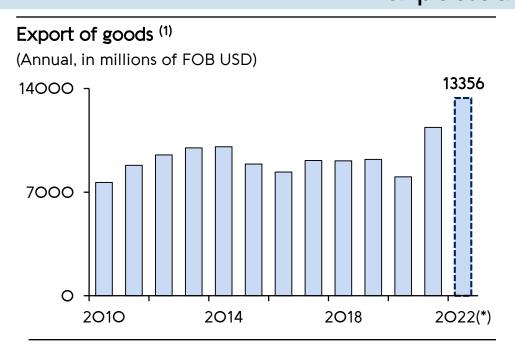
⁽²⁾ Source: Ministry of Economy estimates based on data from BCU.

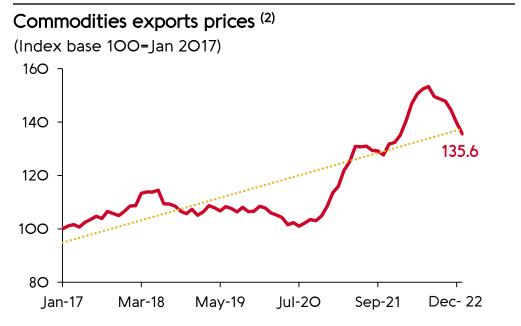
⁽³⁾ Source: For Uruguay, annual nominal GDP in USD through 2022Q3 from Central Bank of Uruguay and population from National Institute of Statistics. For the rest of LATAM countries: WEO October 2022, International Monetary Fund estimates on nominal GDP in dollars and population for 2022.



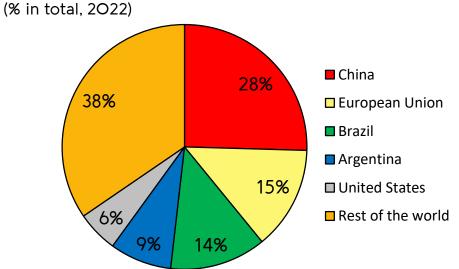
Goods exports hit record high in 2022 on the back of higher commodity prices; significant tourist sector recovery expected in 2023.





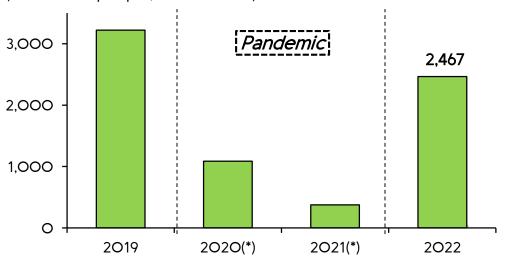


Export of goods by destination (1)



Tourists inbound (3)

(Number of people, in thousands)



⁽¹⁾ Source: Uruguay XXI (figures include exports from the Free Trade Zones to the rest of the world). (*) For 2022, preliminary data.

²⁾ Source: CPA Ferrere, based on Bloomberg and National Institute of Meat of Uruguay (INAC). Weighted-average of soybeans, meat, rice, dairy products, and pulp exports.

⁽³⁾ Source: Ministry of Tourism. (*) 2020 and 2021 are estimations based on migrations data, made by Ministry of Economy.



Market-friendly business regulations and new tax incentives for fixed capital formation underpinned investment dynamics.



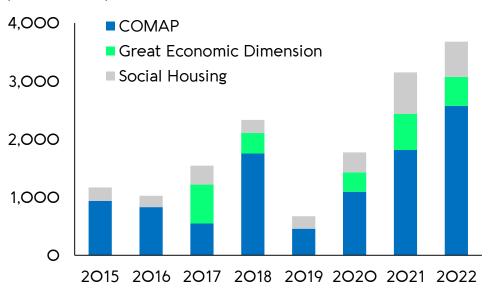
Uruguay ranked #1 as "the safest country in Latin America to invest in" by Euromoney in 2022.

- Uruguay offers a favourable environment and financial freedom for doing business. Foreign investors are granted the same incentives as local investors: there is no tax discrimination or restrictions for transferring profits abroad.
- Investor-friendly policies and regulations, respect for rule of law and trade openness.
- Uruguay grants several incentives to different types of activities, from industrial to commercial and service activities performed in the country.

New tax breaks for big-ticket construction projects and social housing

✓ Recent changes to the General Investment Promotion Regime (COMAP) providing more tax incentives encouraging employment creation (housing, offices and urbanization construction) and clean energy technologies.

Investment presented according to promotion regime (1) (USD millions)





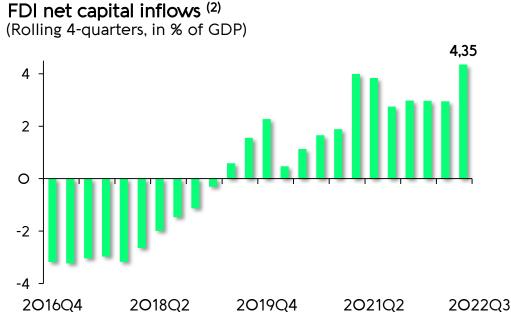
Finnish company UPM completed the construction of the second pulp mill, the largest-ever private investment in the country.



UPM's pulp mill and Central Railway project (1)

- December 26th, 2O22. The works of the new UPM plant have been completed. It is expected to start operating by the end of the first quarter of 2O23.
- UPM invested a total of approximately US\$ 3.5 billion (4.8% of GDP) to build a 2.1 million-tonn greenfield eucalyptus pulp mill in Durazno and a port terminal in Montevideo.
- US\$ 1 billion investment in a Central Railway running from Paso de los Toros city to the port of Montevideo (273 km long). Public-Private-Partnership (PPP) modality.







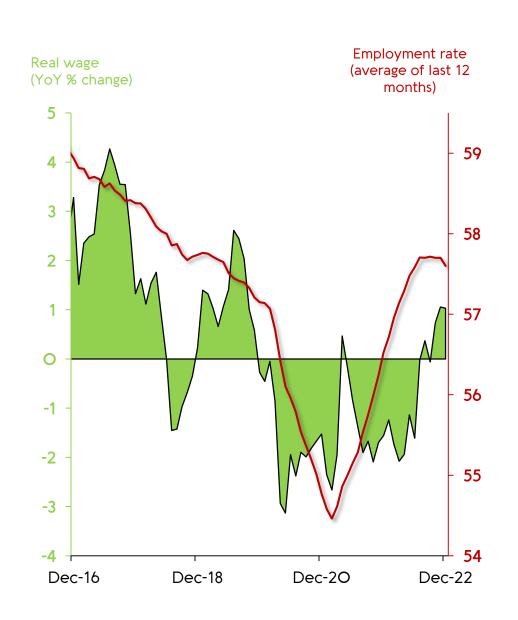


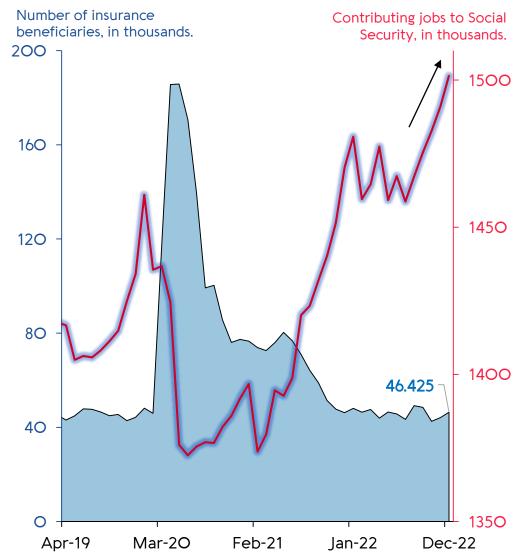
Labor market indicators reflect the recovery process with a higher degree of formalization, with upturn in real wages



Employment and real wages (1)

Unemployment Insurance and formal job creation (2)

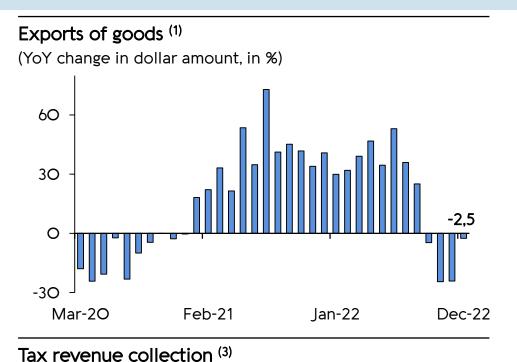


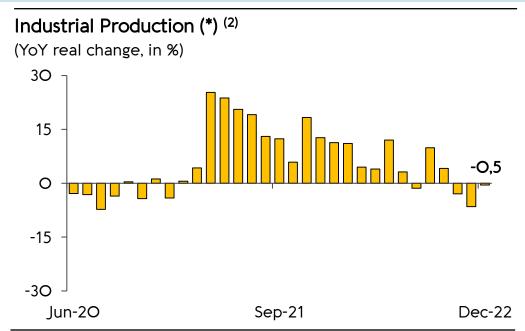




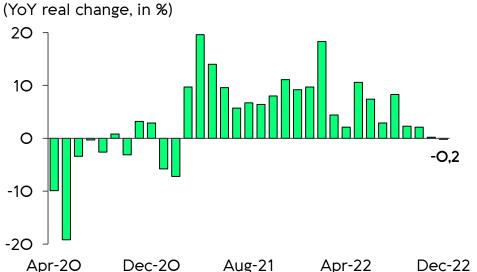
Leading indicators and a severe drought during the summer point to slower economic growth in 2023.





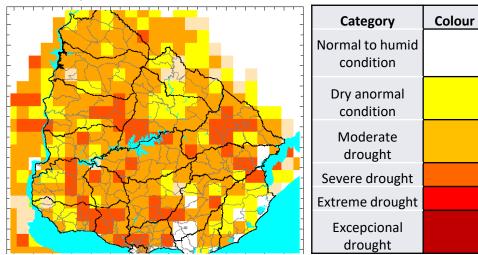


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Hydric Map and Drought Severity Index (4)

(As of January 16, 2023)



⁽¹⁾ Source: Ministry of Economy and Finance.

⁽²⁾ Source: Ministry of Economy and Finance. (*) Data does not include state owned refinery.

⁽³⁾ Source: Tax Collection Office, Ministry of Economy and Finance

⁽⁴⁾ Source: National Agricultural Information System. The Drought Severity Index combines rainfall estimates based on satellite data, surface temperatures and a vegetation index based on Rhee (2010)



Fiscal discipline aligned with fiscal rule





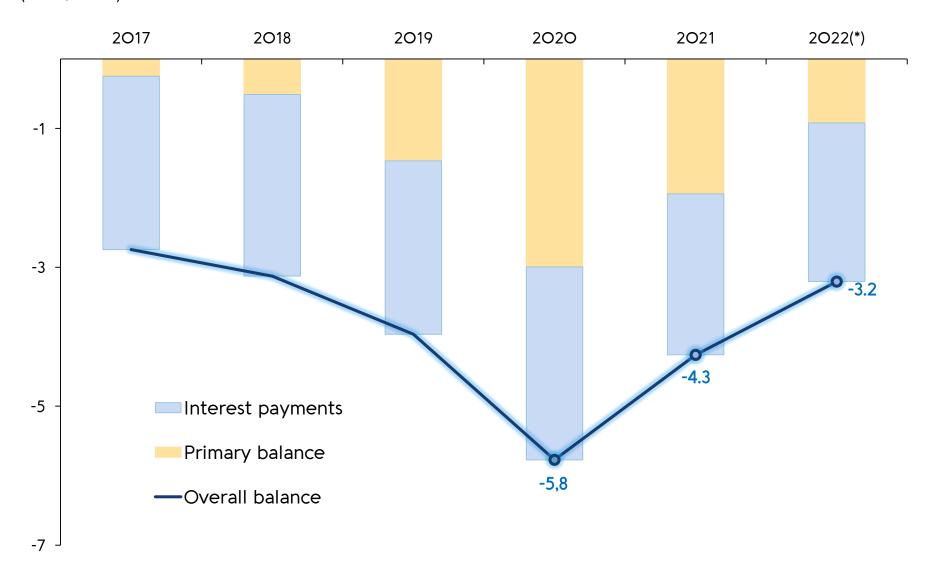


Steady annual improvement in public finances based on strong commitment to fiscal discipline ...



Central Government's fiscal balance (1)

(In % of GDP)





...meeting all three pillars of the Central Government's fiscal rule for the third year in a row, underpinning fiscal credibility.





Indicative target on structural fiscal balance, to account for business cycle fluctuations and one-off/temporary spending and revenue items.



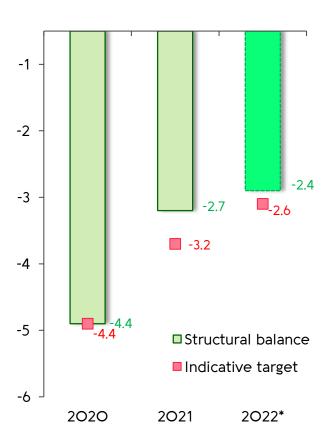
Indicative target cap on real growth in primary expenditure in line with estimated potential real GDP growth



Legally binding maximum level of annual net indebtedness in dollar amount.

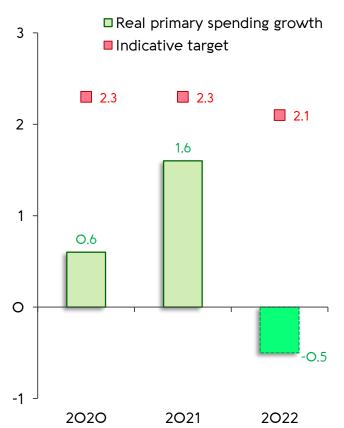
Structural balance

(In % of GDP)



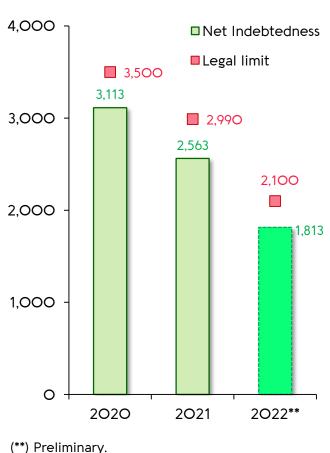


(Annual real variation, in %)



Net indebtedness

(USD mm)



Source: Ministry of Economy and Finance of Uruguay.

New Fiscal Framework



Establishment of the Fiscal Advisory Council.

On <u>September 29, 2021</u>, the Fiscal Advisory Council (FAC) was established. The FAC is a technical, honorary and independent body composed of three members. It is tasked with assessing the overall implementation of the fiscal rule.

Creation of the Expert Committee.

The Expert Committee (EC) was created on <u>December 29, 2021</u>. The EC has eleven members representing Universities, consulting firms and think tanks. Will provide technical parameters to the Ministry of Economy and Finance used for the calculations and projections of the structural fiscal balance.

Debt sensitivity analysis.

On <u>June 2022</u>, a **debt sensitivity analysis was conducted to quantify the uncertainty associated with the baseline debt projections**. Key variables that drive debt dynamics are exposed to random shocks. These shocks are based on the historical behavior of each variable. A range of debt-to-GDP trajectories are obtained, which allows for an evaluation of the risk distribution around specific projection in the baseline scenario.

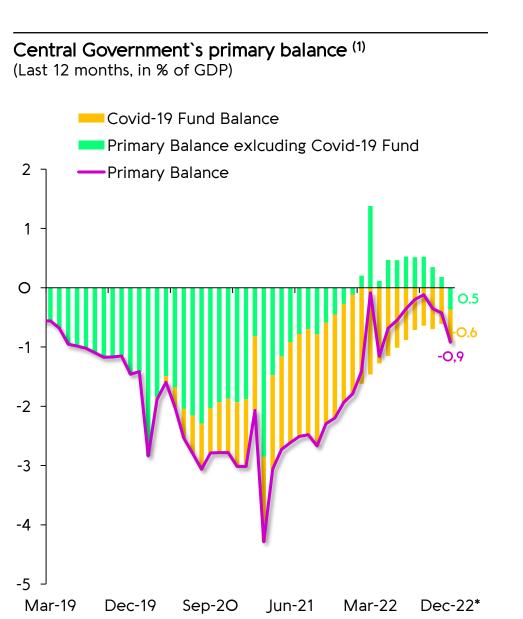
Validation of Structural Balance.

On <u>July 7, 2022</u>, the FAC concluded that the calculation of the structural fiscal balance presented in the 2021 Budget Review was in accordance with the official methodology.

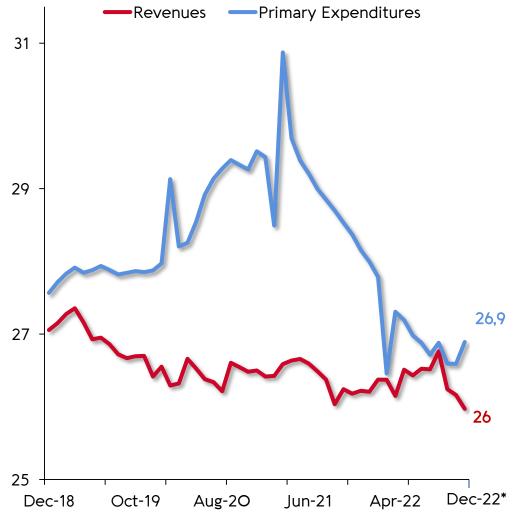
Fiscal Advisory Council On <u>February 22, 2023</u>, the FAC publish the report with the review of the calculation of the Structural Fiscal Result. The deficit stood at 2.4% of GDP in 2022, O.8 percentage points lower than effective, because the latter continued to be impacted by the cyclical position of the economy (negatively affected revenues and positively affected expenditures). Access the Executive Summary in English, in the following link: https://www.gub.uy/ministerio-economia-finanzas/politicas-y-gestion/informes-del-consejo-fiscal-asesor

Implementation of the new fiscal institutional framework marks the first time that the Ministry of Economy and Finance has clear, well-defined metrics and indicative targets to assess its fiscal policy and promote accountability. Furthermore, estimates for unobservable values (structural fiscal balance) have the methodological validation of the independent Fiscal Advisory Council.

Widening of primary fiscal deficit in the last quarter of 2022 was mostly explained by increase in public investment spending, and cyclically softer tax revenues.



Central Government's revenues and primary expenditures (1) (Last 12 months, in % of GDP)

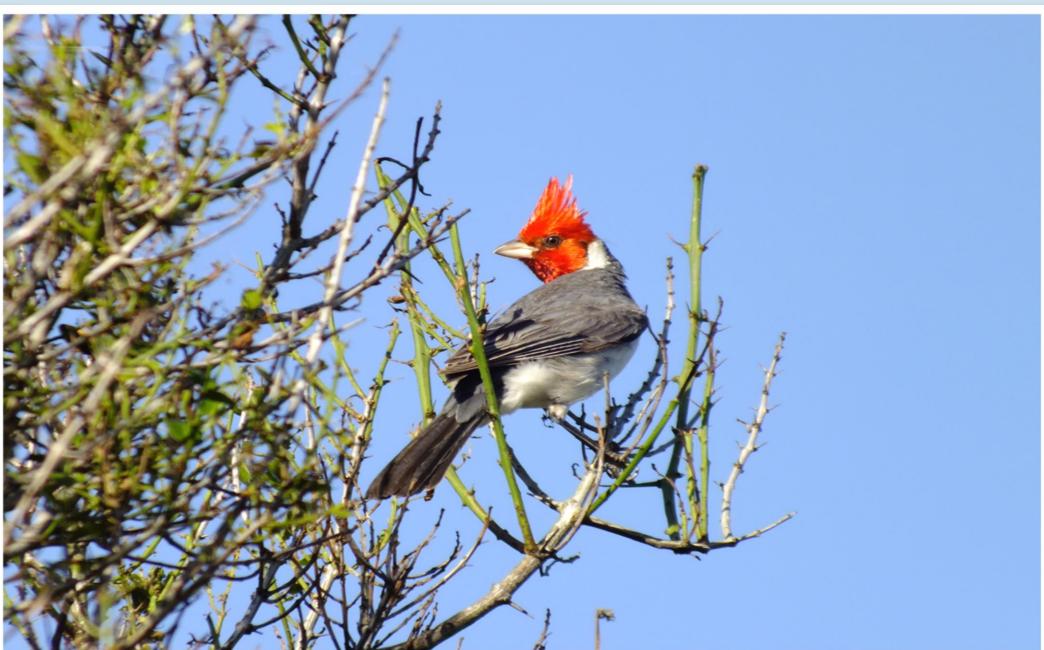


⁽¹⁾ Source: Ministry of Economy and Finance of Uruguay. Does not Include extraordinary inflows to the Social Security Trust Fund. (*) Based on GDP projection for 2022.



Enhancing the monetary policy framework and anchoring inflation expectations







Monetary policies focused on bringing down inflation and anchoring inflation expectations within target.



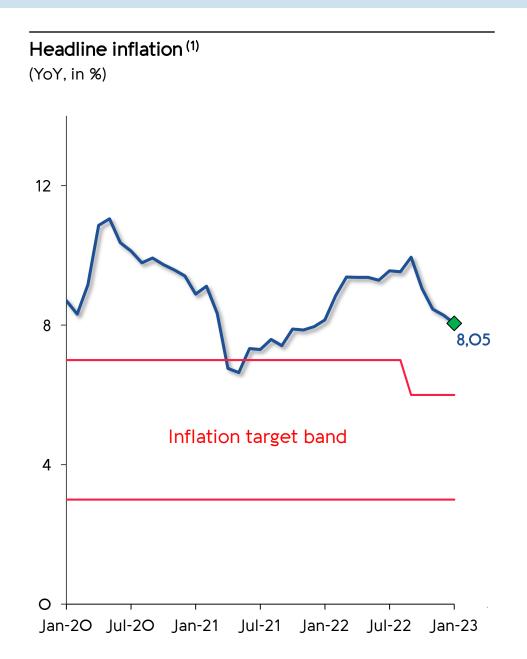
- Commitment to Lower Inflation
- Key focus is to lower inflation and anchor inflation expectations within the target band in a sustainable way.
- 2 Short-term
 Interest Rate as
 new Policy
 Instrument
- New monetary policy instrument under inflation targeting regime.
- Designed to improve market signals and allows for fine-tuning of monetary policy at higher frequency.
- Enhanced
 Transparency in
 Communication
- Higher frequency in Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) meetings, published minutes of MPC, relaunched inflation survey, among others.
- Publication of Central Bank's inflation projections and survey of firms' inflation expectations.
- Counter-cyclical
 Monetary Policy
 Stance
- As the pandemic eased and inflationary pressures build up, the Central Bank shifted towards a more contractionary monetary policy stance, increasing the reference rate by an cumulative 700 bps since September 2020, to the current 11.50%.

- Financial De-Dollarization
- Rebuilding markets in local currency to mitigate financial dollarization and developing FX derivatives markets
- Adjustments to the level and differentiation of tax rates on interest receipts on by bank deposits and market securities, by type of currency.
- Encouragement to the participation of public enterprises in the FX derivatives markets.

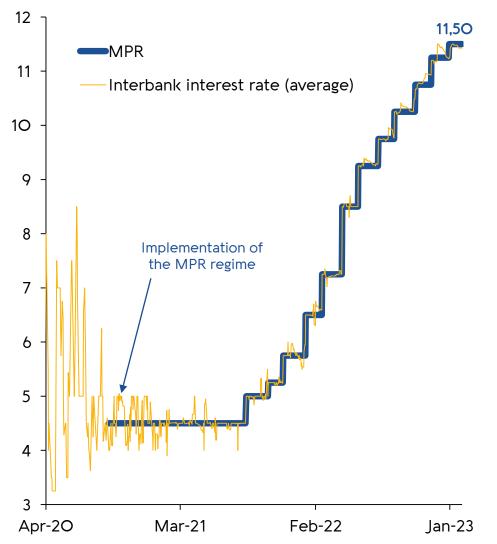


Inflation still above the upper ceiling of inflation target band, with monetary policy on a contractionary stance.

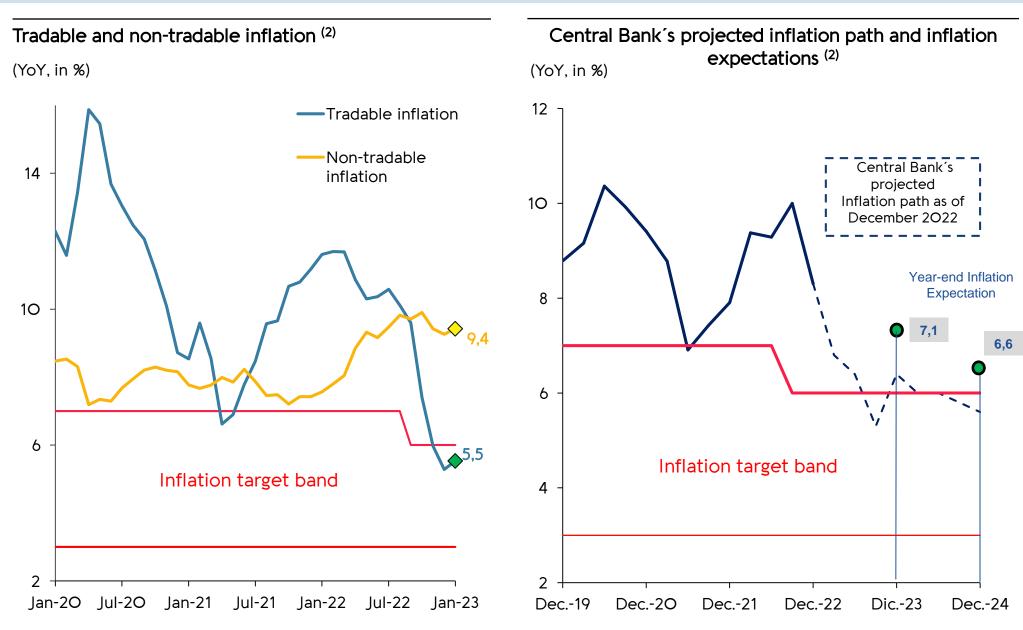








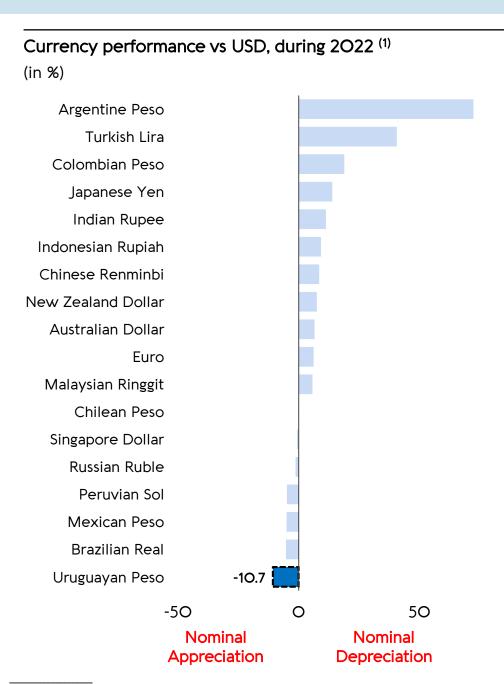
Inflation is trending down, mostly driven by the tradable component; Central Bank expects headline inflation to revert within the target band by 2023Q3.



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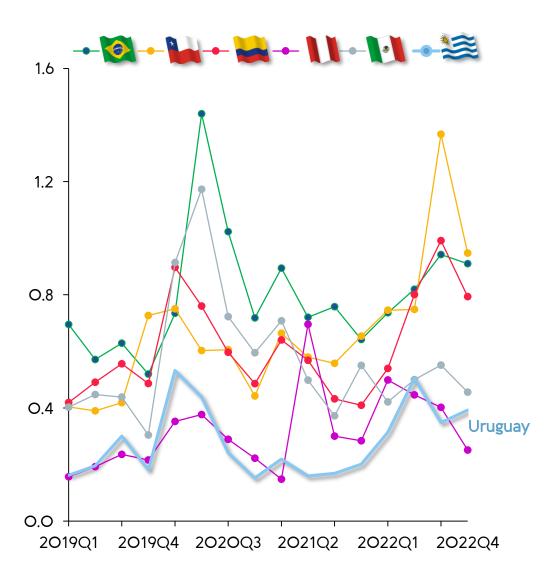


Exchange rate has appreciated and showed relative stability over the last three years, including during risk-off episodes.



Nominal exchange volatility in LatAm (1)

(Quarterly average of absolute value of daily percent changes)



⁽¹⁾ Source: Bloomberg.

⁽¹⁾ Source: Biodifiberg. (2) Source: ECLAC, based on Bloomberg.



Stable current account; banking sector with low exposure to the region

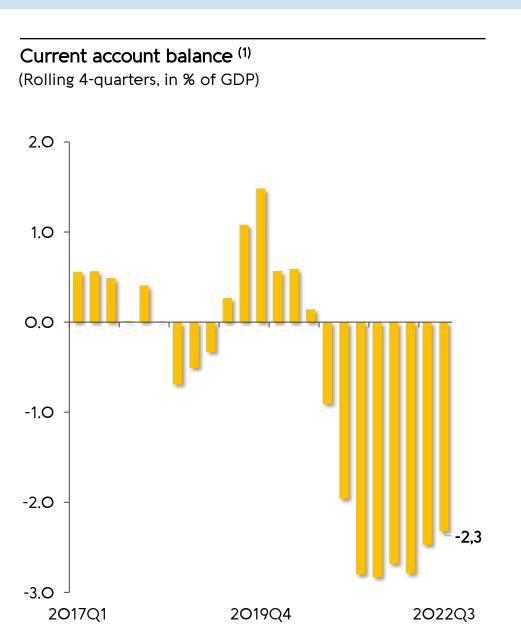


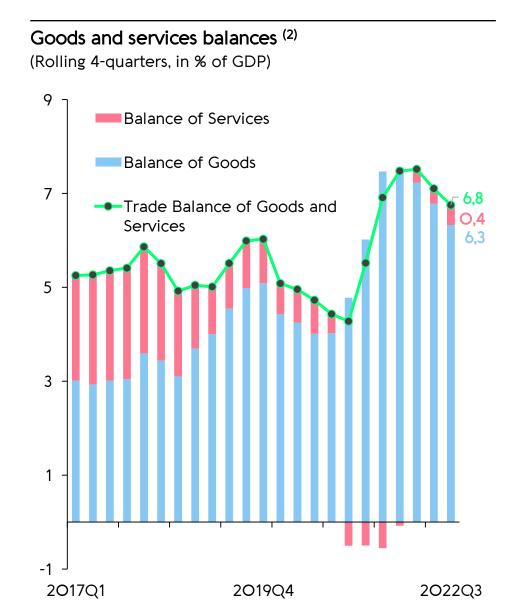




Moderate current account deficit fully financed by FDI, on the back of a resilient balance of goods and services...







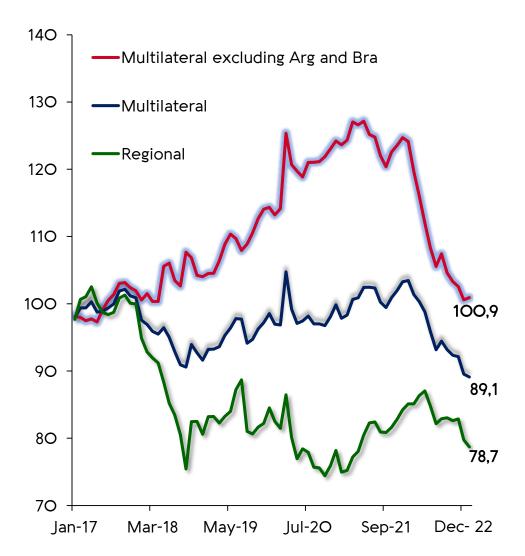


... despite real exchange rate appreciation; large international reserve buffers are a significant external backstop



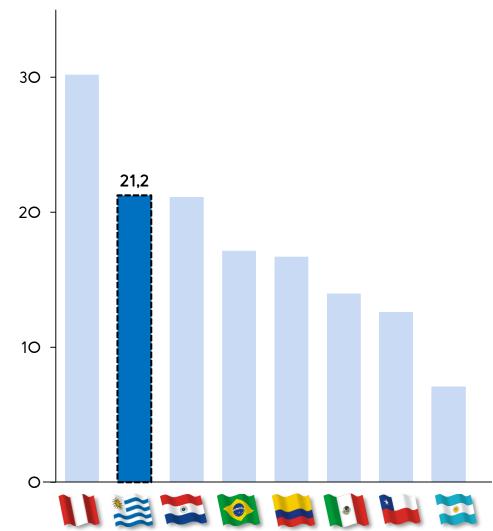
Real Effective Exchange Rate of Uruguay

(Index base 100 = average 2017)



International reserves in Latam (2)

(As of end 2O22, in % of GDP)*



⁽¹⁾ Source: Central Bank of Uruguay.

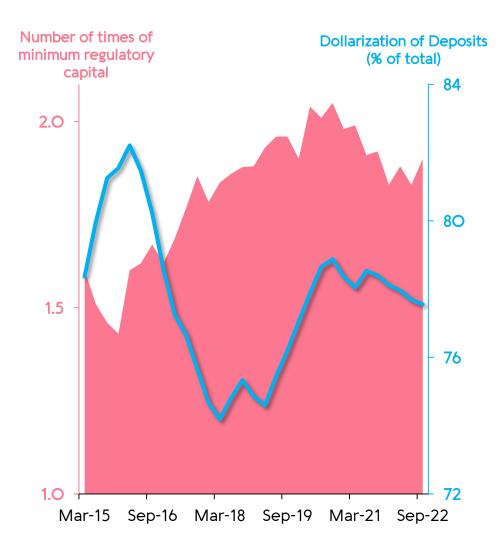
^{?)} Source: International Monetary Fund. (*) Projected GDP



Banking sector remains well-capitalized, with high liquidity levels and low exposure to the region, yet with still-high financial dollarization

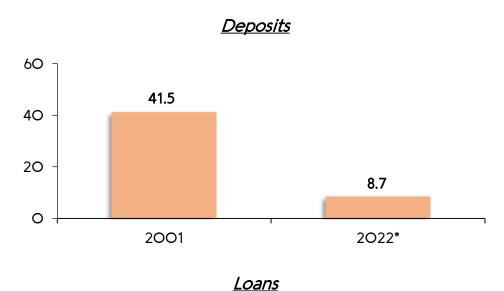


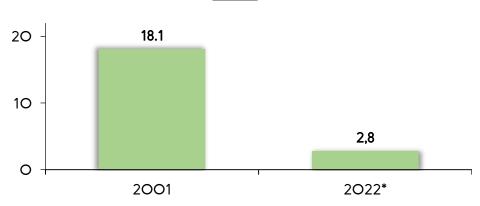
Solvency and dollarization of the banking system



Banking system's exposure to non-residents

(To the non-financial sector, % of total)^{1/}





- 1/ End-period; data for deposits includes only private non-financial sector.
- (*) As of October 2022.



Government-led structural reforms







Government forges ahead with structural and market-friendly reforms: "keeping the high-beam headlights on"



Urgent Consideration (*UC*) Law^{1/1}

2020-2024 Budget Law



2O21 Budget Review Social Security Reform

Approved on July 9th, 2O2O

- Changes in the tax code for small businesses.
- Changes in the regulatory framework for energy markets.
- Commission of experts of the Pension Reform submitted the diagnosis on March 23rd 2O21 and has 9O days onwards to present a comprehensive reform to Congress.
- Draft of new fiscal framework.

Approved on December 18th, 2O2O

- New governance for public enterprises: performance targets and accountability.
- Environmental and ESG-focused policies (Helsinski Principles).
- Implementation of new fiscal institutionality.

Approved on November 3rd, 2022

- Fullfillment of the three pillars of the Fiscal Rule in 2021
- Proposes additional expenses for three specific areas: education, I+D and citizen security.
- Provides for further public policies to foster the long-term growth of the

Approved by Senate on December 28st, 2022. Now in Chamber of Deputies.

- Parametric changes to all schemes.
- Established a common system for all the schemes that exist in the country.
- Creation of an independent regulatory agency that oversees the entire regime.
- Mechanisms to encourage voluntary savings.

^{1/} On March 27th, 2022, a public referendum was held on whether to repeal, or uphold, 135 articles of the Urgent Consideration Law voted in 2020. The majority of the population (51,3%) voted in favour of upholding them.

Impactful structural reforms underway



• Social security reform:

- Convergence of the different subsystems towards a uniform base regime (mixed system), and parametric changes to all schemes (extension of working life, minimum contribution time, benefit calculation formula).
- Creation of an independent regulatory agency that oversees the entire regime.
- Variety of mechanisms to encourage voluntary savings, allows the combination of work and retirement and widens the set of assets menu for pension funds.

Educational reform:

- More extended-day educational centers and tutorials.
- Professionalization of management teams with training and information systems for planning.
- New competency-based curricular framework.
- Towards a university teacher training.

• Commercial integration and free trade:

- Positive outcome of the feasibility study on a China-Uruguay Free Trade Agreement –initiated in September 2021–, leading to formal trade talks.
- Uruguay and Brazil agreed on the reduction of the Common External Tariff of Mercosur and on preferential access of goods from free trade zones.
- In December 1st, Uruguay submitted a formal request to enter the Trans-Pacific Partnership Agreement in a meeting with the head of Trade and Export Growth and head of New Eland Primary Industries, Damien O'Connor.



Strong ESG foundations





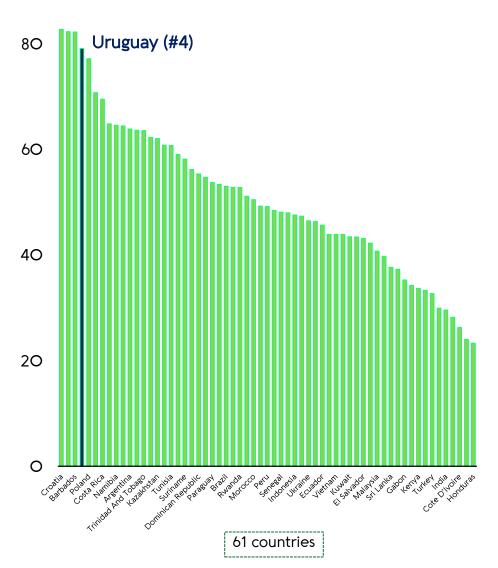


Uruguay is among the top global performers on ESG fundamentals.



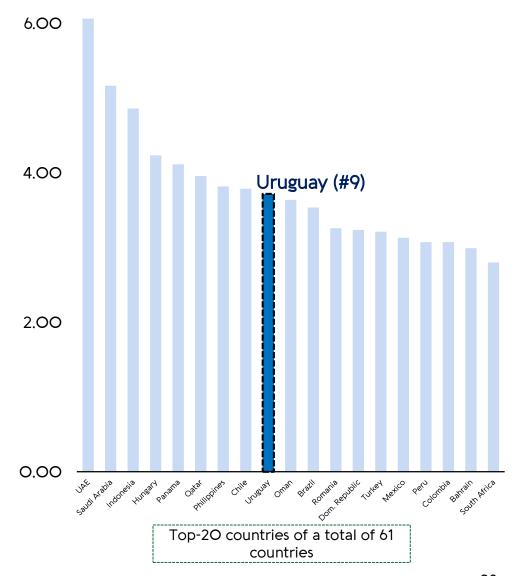
Emerging markets' ESG Score

(Index, 100 = best performance; as of end-January, 2023)



Market cap in ESG-Adjusted EMBI (JESG EMBI)

(In %, as of end-January, 2023)



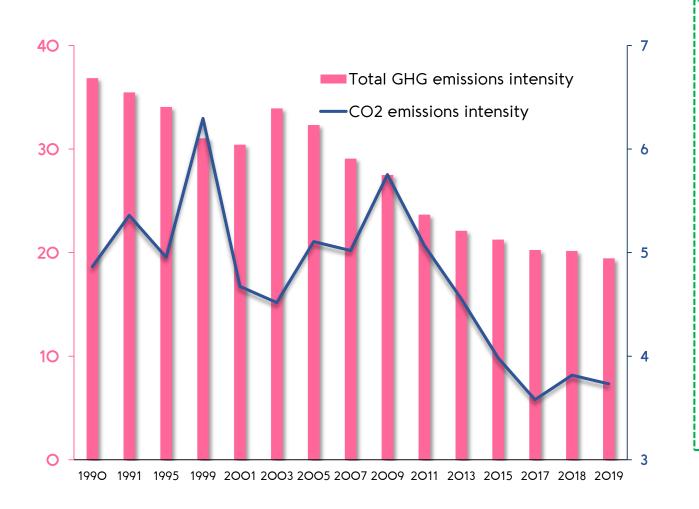


The country is at the forefront of environmentally-friendly policies, with a significant reduction in the carbon intensity of economic activity



Uruguay: Carbon intensity as a share of GDP (1)

(Green House Gas emissions as a share of real GDP, in %)



Among emerging countries, Uruguay is ranked:

 #1 in the Environmental Pillar Index from MSCI (2021)

Among Latin American and Caribbean countries, Uruguay is ranked:

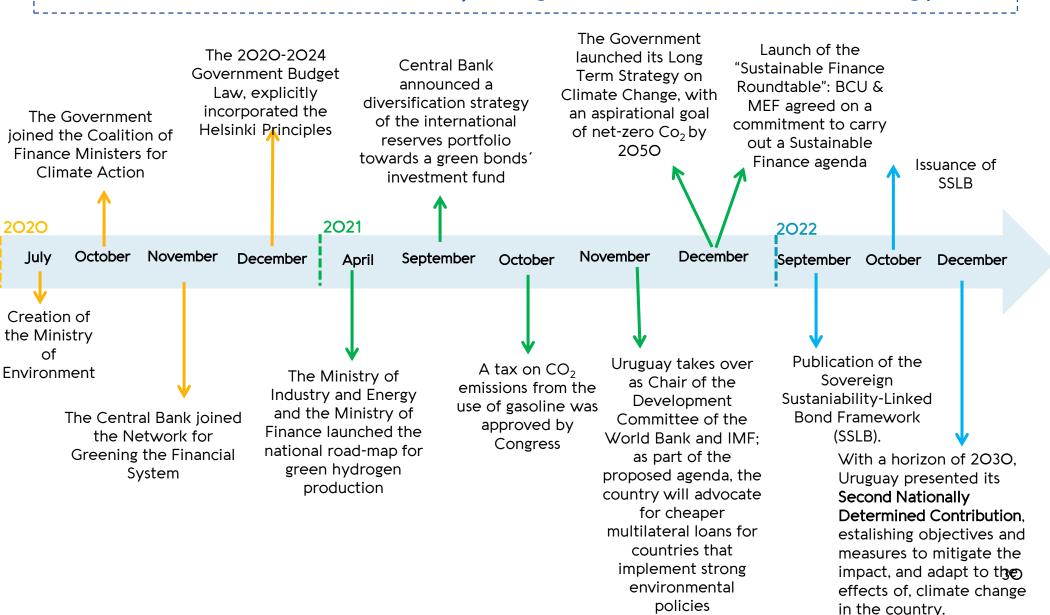
 #1 in the Energy Transition Index from the World Economic Forum (2021)



The Government is committed to climate action policies



The goal is to make economic growth consistent with a pathway towards low greenhouse gas emissions and a climate-resilient economy, through macroeconomic, fiscal and financing policies.

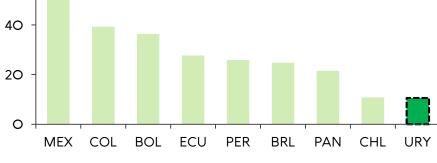




Uruguay has a relatively low poverty rate and gender inequality, and the highest share of middle class people in LatAm

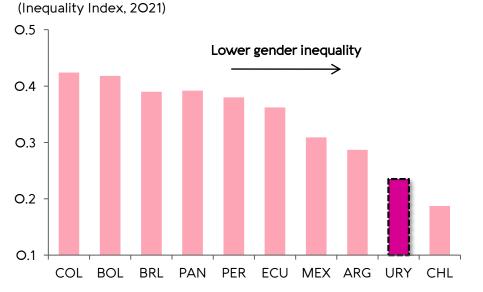




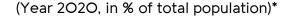


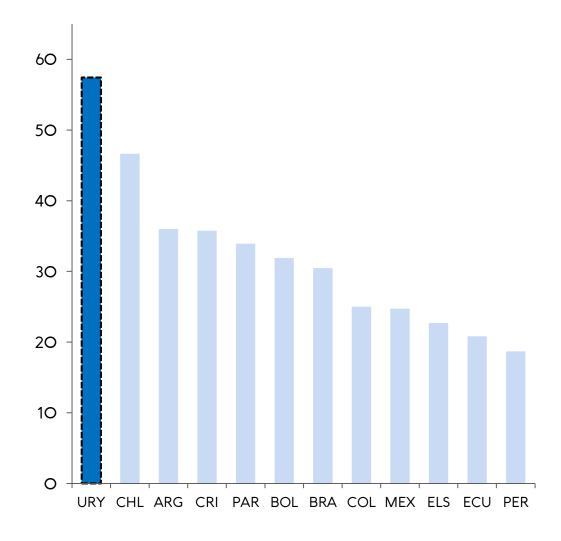
(*) Except for Brazil (2019), Panama (2019), Mexico (2020) and Chile (2020). Argentina is not included because the poverty rate is only calculated for urban areas.

Gender inequality compared to LatAm (2)









¹⁾ Source: ECLAC

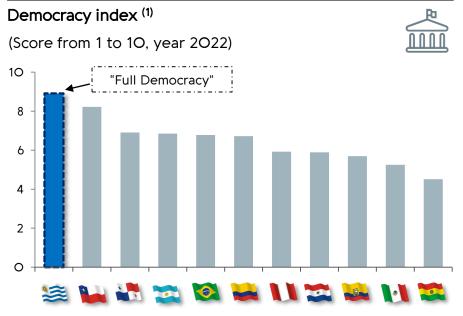
Source: United Nations Development Program (UNDP), Human Development Reports 2020; Gender Inequality Index is a composite measure reflecting inequality in achievement petween women and men in three dimensions: reproductive health, empowerment and the labour market.

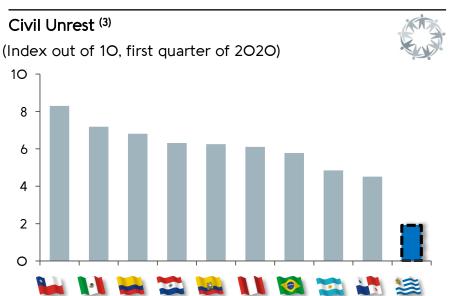
S) Source: Inter-American Development Bank; Middle class defined as percentage of population that lives in households with per capita income between USD 12,4 and USD 62 a day.

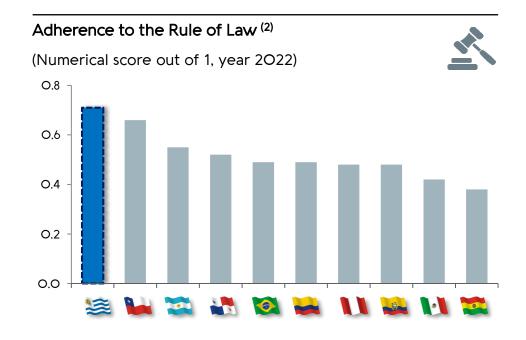
6 E S G

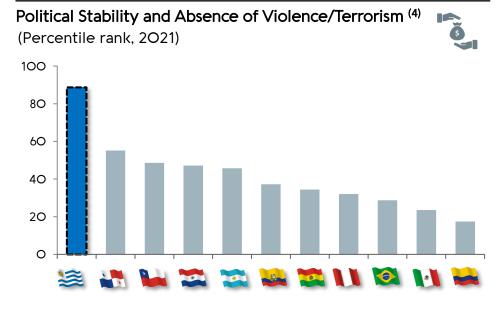
Uruguay is a bastion of institutional, political and social stability in LatAm, ranking alongside most developed nations











⁽¹⁾ Source: The Economist Intelligence Unit (2023).

⁽²⁾ Source: World Justice Project (2022).

⁽³⁾ Source: Verisk Maplecroft (2020).

⁽⁴⁾ Source: Worldwide Governance Indicators., World Bank.



E SG

Uruguay ha the lowest Corruption Perception in 2022 along with Canada, well below region average.



CORRUPTION PERCEPTIONS INDEX 2022

With a Score of 74,
Uruguay has
significantly lower
perceived corruption
that average of the
main regions of the
WESTERN EUROPE
& EUROPEAN UNIVERSALE

WESTERN EUROPE
& EUROPEAN UNIVERSALE

WESTERN EUROPE

& EUROPEAN UNIVERSALE

WESTERN EUROPE

& EUROPEAN UNIVERSALE

WESTERN EU

66/100 AVERAGE SCORE

AMERICAS

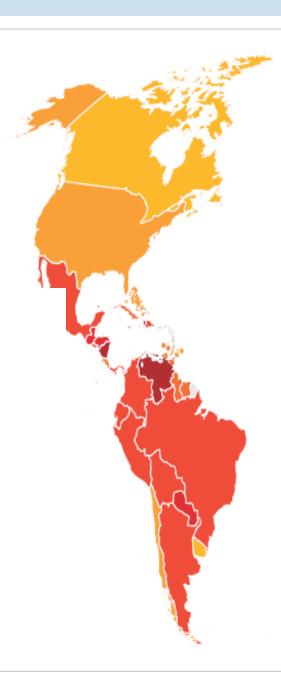
43/100
AVERAGE SCORE

45/100 AVERAGE SCORE

VERAGE SCORE

ARAB STATES

33/100
AVERAGE SCORE





SCORE	COUNTRY/TERRITORY		40	Suriname
74	Canada		39	Colombia
74	Uruguay	'n	38	Argentina
69	United States	-1	38	Brazil
	of America		36	Ecuador
67	Chile		36	Panama
65	Barbados		36	Peru
64	Bahamas		33	El Salvador
60	Saint Vincent and the Grenadines		32	Dominican Republic
55	Dominica		31	Bolivia
55	Saint Lucia		31	Mexico
54	Costa Rica		28	Paraguay
52	Grenada		24	Guatemala
45	Cuba		23	Honduras
44	Jamaica		19	Nicaragua
42	Trinidad and Tobago		17	Haiti
40	Guyana		14	Venezuela

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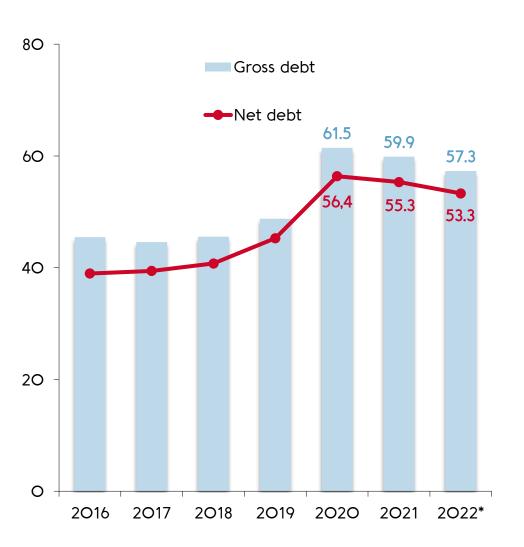
Resilient debt structure and sustainable financing strategies



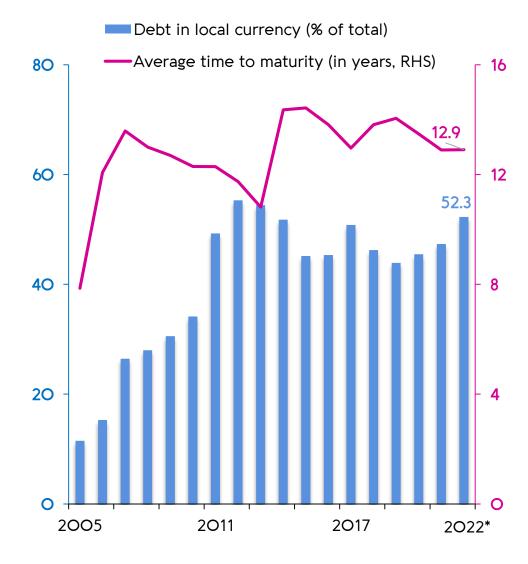


Government debt burden set into a slightly downward path since pandemic shock, while proactive debt management strategies ain to de-risk debt portfolio while keeping borrowing costs contained

Gross and net debt stock of the Central Government (As of end-period, in % of GDP)



Currency and maturity composition of debt (As of end-period)





In October 2022, Uruguay issued a Sustainability-Linked Sovereign Bond (SSLB) tied to climate and nature conservation indicators

- The issuance was underpinned by the SSLB Framework published on September 20th, 2022, and developed a specific webpage with all the information related to this project (http://sslburuguay.mef.gub.uy/).
- The Bond embeds two complementary <u>Key Performance Indicators</u> (**KPIs**) tied to climate change mitigation and nature conservation goals:

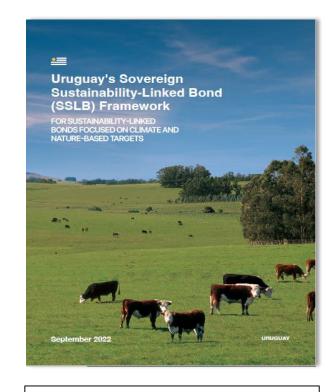


reducing the intensity of Greenhouse Gas emissions



preserving the area of native forests

• The Sustainability Performance Targets (SPTs) are based on quantitative goals set for 2025 and are in line with Uruguay's Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) under the Paris Agreement.



The project benefited
from technical
assistance from the
Interamerican
Development Bank
(IADB) and the United
Nations Development
Program (UNDP).



The SSLB Bond pioneered an alternative approach for sustainability-linked debt financing



- Uruguay implemented an innovative financing mechanism that linked the country's cost of capital to its delivery of ambitious climate and nature goals.
- Introduced an interest rate structure for SSLBs that features a
 potential coupon adjustment (increase, constant or decrease),
 depending on whether the country fails to meet, delivers, or
 overperforms on its SPTs, respectively.
- Embedding better-aligned financial incentives in sovereign fixedincome instruments can achieve the integration of nature and climate considerations into sovereign debt markets, providing positive incentives for countries to contribute to global public goods.



Central Government's funding needs and financing sources



Flow of funds

(Annual, in USD million)

2022 (*) 2023 (*)

FINANCING NEEDS	5,140	4,210
Primary Deficit (1)	722	191
Interests Payments (2)	1,667	1,771
Amortizations of Bonds and Loans (3)	2,604	2,222
Change in Financial Assets	147	26
FUNDING SOURCES	5,140	4,210
Disbursements from Multilaterals and Fin. Instit.	571	356
Total Issuance of Market Debt (4)	3,992	3,785
Others (net) (5)	576	69
Memo Item: Government Net Indebtedness (GNI)	1,813	1,893

^(*) Preliminary. The sum of the components may differ from the totals due to rounding.

⁽¹⁾ Excludes extraordinary transfers to the public Social Security Trust Fund (SSTF).

⁽²⁾ Includes interest payments to the SSTF on its holdings of Central Government debt, but does not net out market price valuation gains on above-par bond issuances.

⁽³⁾ For 2023, includes the obligations coming due on a contractual basis and bonds repurchased and early redeemed through February 28t 2023.

⁽⁴⁾ Includes bonds issued domestically and in international markets.

⁽⁵⁾ Captures other financial sources of cash inflows for the Treasury, as well as financing operations that do not impact gross debt statistics Source: Ministry of Economy and Finance of Uruguay.



Cornerstones of debt management strategy and sustainable financing



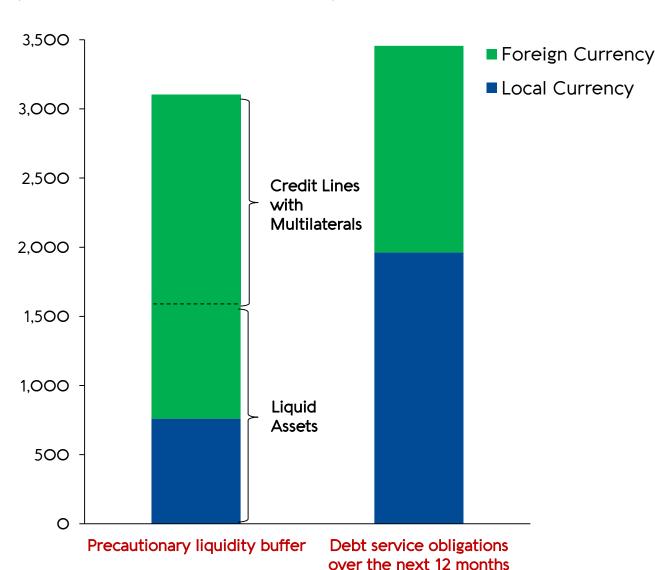
- Increase local currency funding in domestic and international markets while developing its secondary market (liquidity, depth, and points in the curve).
- Keep refinancing risk low through proactive LM operations, precautionary liquidity buffers and contingent credit lines.
- Diversify sources of funding and continue broadening the investor base, particularly ESG-focused accounts.
- Align sovereign funding strategies (in bond market issuance and multilateral loans) with achieving ambitious environmental targets to address climate change and nature conservation.



Large liquidity buffers and precautionary credit lines of the Central Government provide financial backstops



Liquidity buffers of the Government and short-term debt service obligations (1) (In US\$ million, as of end-December 2022)



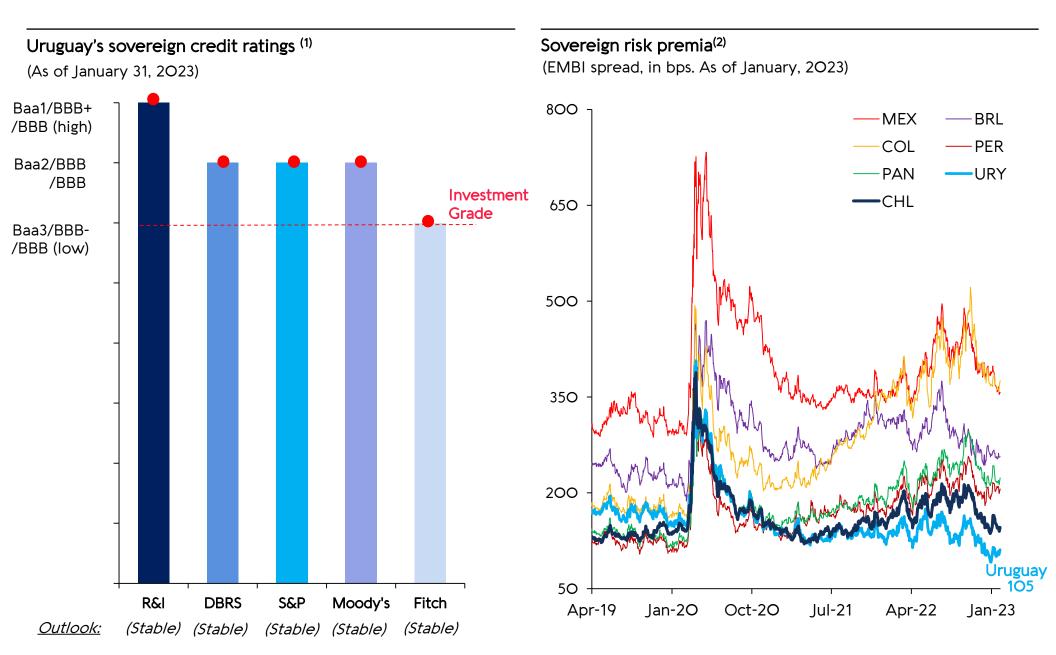
Available precautionary credit lines with multilaterals totalize USD 1.5 billion:

- Corporación Andina de Fomento (USD 750 million);
- Fondo Latinoamericano de Reservas (USD 665 million)
- Inter-American
 Development Bank (USD 100 million)



By end-2022, Uruguay reached its highest-ever investment grade rating and lowest EMBI in its history.





Source: Moody's, S&P, R&I, DBRS-Morningstar and Fitch

(2) Source: Bloomberg



República Oriental del Uruguay

ANNEX

Summary of Key Innovations in Uruguay's SSLB Framework

W.



Whole Economy Sustainability-Linked Bonds

✓ By integrating "whole economy" Paris-aligned commitments into a national financial strategy, Uruguay will introduce a class of financial instruments that can enable Uruguay, and other State Actors, to achieve our shared climate change objectives

Mainstream NDC Commitments

- Create benchmarks for Sovereign GHG emission intensity reduction and Native Forest Area maintenance goals
- Help strengthen the credibility in the NDC system
- Pave way for KPI standardization in order to scale up sustainable finance instruments for sovereigns

Robust inter-ministerial coordination

- ✓ The responsibilities and accountability across participants of task force will be agreed and laid out in a Memorandum of Understanding
- ✓ The work of the task force will be backed by an executive decree executed by all Five Ministries involved in the work related to SSLBs

Financing mechanism that is incentive-compatible

✓ Uruguay seeks to explicitly link its cost of capital to the achievement of the country's forward-looking environmental targets under the Paris Agreement

✓ The proposed two-way pricing structure will penalize Uruguay if it does not deliver on its NDC goals (SPT 1.1 & SPT 2.1) and will reward the country if it over performs on its ambitious NDC targets (SPT 1.2 & SPT 2.2).

Reporting

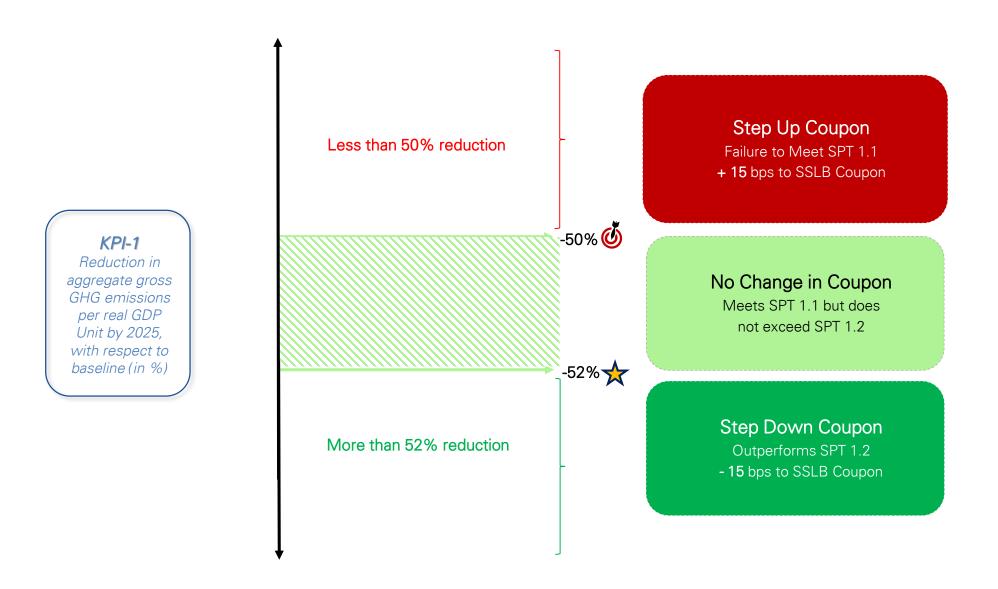
- Uruguay will be the only non-Annex I country to start reporting GHG emissions on annual frequency and with a shorter time lag, on par with industrialized countries
- ✓ Uruguay's efforts to shorten data "lags" and external verification period for GHG emissions to approximately 17 months

External Verification

✓ United Nations Development Program ("UNDP") will provide accelerated independent external review of both KPIs throughout the life of the bond

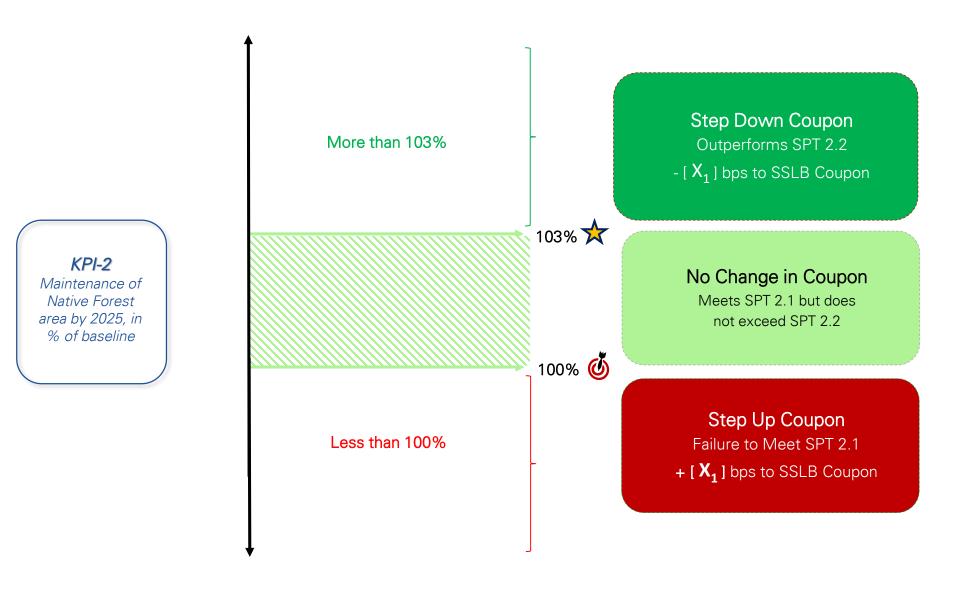
Contingent Payoff Structure that is Incentive Compatible: Step-Up / Neutral / Step-Down Mechanism





Contingent Payoff Structure that is Incentive Compatible: Step-Up / Neutral / Step-Down Mechanism





The Framework is anchored on a robust, timely and transparent system of reporting and verification



