

### **Key Credit Highlights**



- After growing strongly in 2022, economic activity is poised to slowdown in 2023, impacted by a severe drought and lower regional and global demand.
- Steady improvement of public finances in 2020, 2021, and 2022, delivering on fiscal targets; moderate widening of fiscal deficit in the first half of 2023, driven by cyclically softer tax revenues and public infrastructure investment.
- In the context of a significant deceleration of inflation within the target band, Central Bank gradually started reducing short-term policy rate, while holding a contractionary monetary policy stance.
- Current account deficit is more than financed by FDI, amid real exchange rate appreciation and large international reserve buffers.
- The government forges ahead with structural and fiscally conservative reforms, including the recent social security reform law passed by Congress.
- Strengthening in the Government's balance sheet, through a reduction in the sovereign's debt and interest burdens and continued improvements in the currency and debt structure.
- Uruguay becomes the top performer on ESG fundamentals among EM countries; string of recent rating upgrades and improvements in credit outlook by all five rating agencies, reflecting strong fundamentals and relatively low country risk.



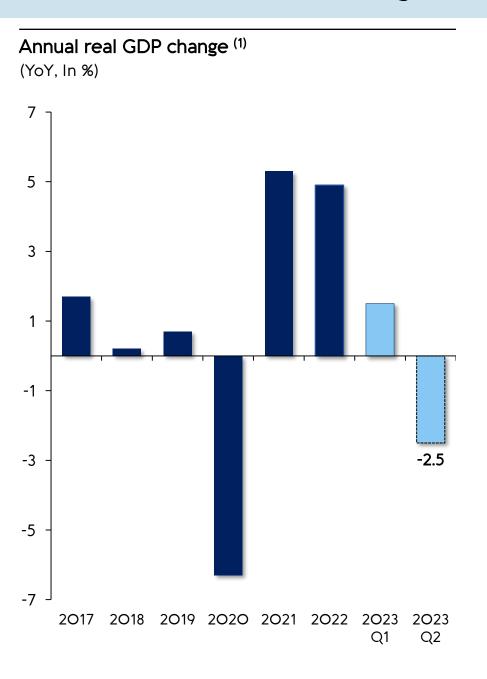
# After growing strongly in 2022, leading indicators suggest slower growth in 2023

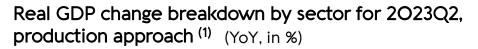


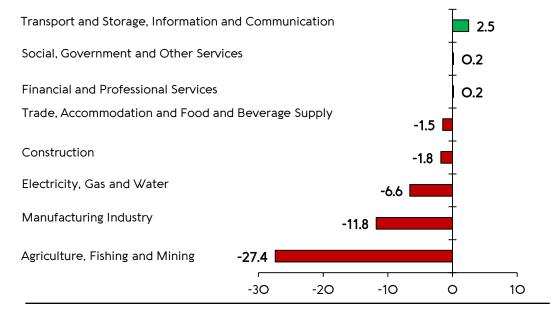


Economic activity expanded strongly in 2022, although real GDP growth has since decelerated; agriculture and industry sectors affected by the severe drought and external demand.



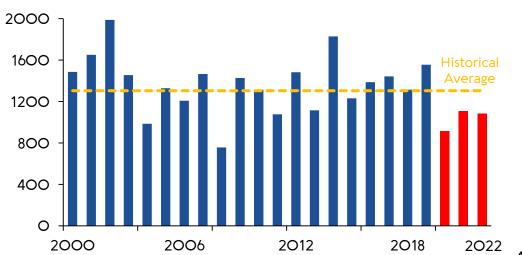






### Uruguay's Average Annual Rainfall (3)

(Annual country average accumulated rainfall in mm)

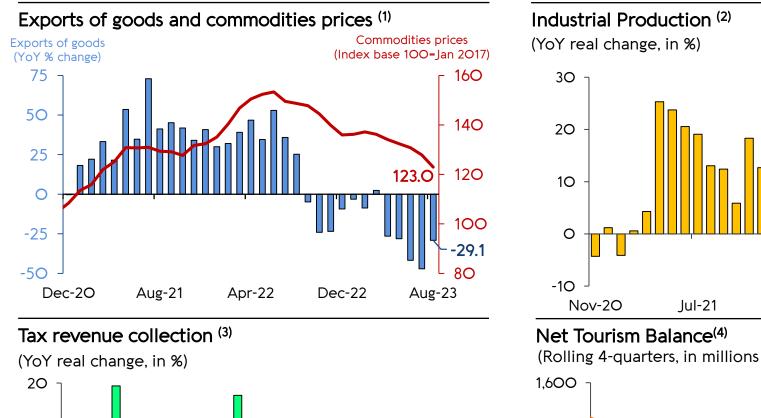


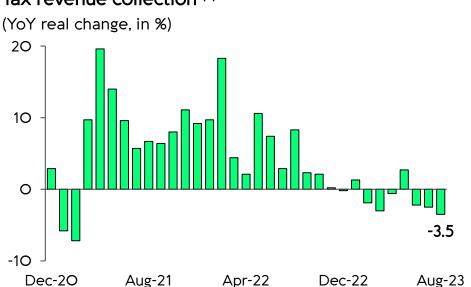
(2) Source: Uruguayan Institute of Meteorology.

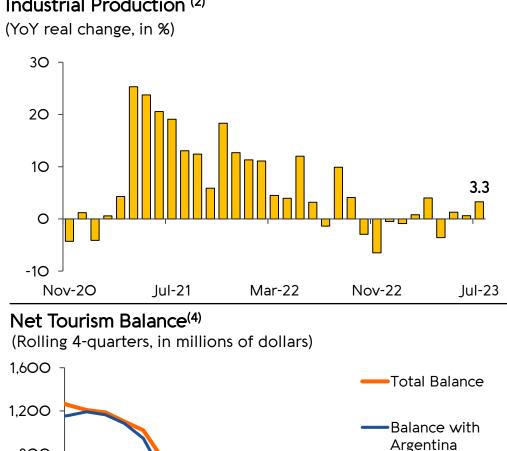
<sup>(1)</sup> Source: Central Bank of Uruguay.

Leading indicators anticipate a slower economic growth compared to the previous estimate made at the beginning of the year, weighed down by a severe drought and lower regional and global demand.









Oct-19

800

400

-400

0

Dec-17

-171.2

Jun-23

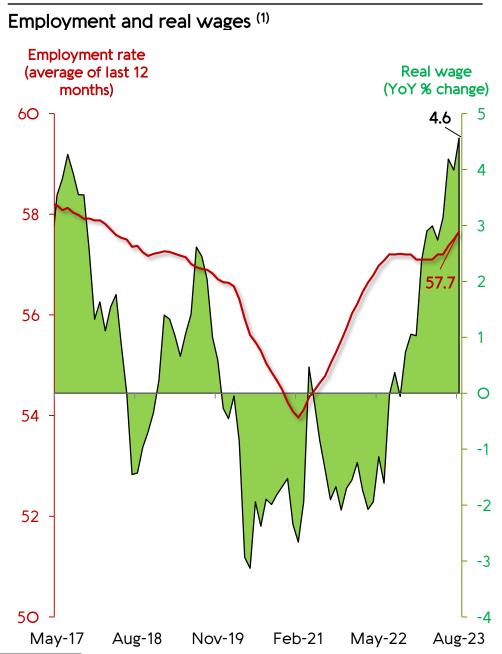
<sup>(1)</sup> Source: BCU and CPA Ferrere, based on Bloomberg and of Meat of Uruguay (INAC). Exports of goods are expressed in millions of dollars and calculations are carried out by the Ministry of Economy and Finance. The commodities prices index is a weighted average of soybeans, meat, rice, dairy products, and pulp export prices (2) Source: Ministry of Economy and Finance calculations based on data from the National Institute of Statistics. Data does not include production from the state-owned refinery. Net Tourism Balance is defined as the difference between inbound and outbound tourism expenditure.

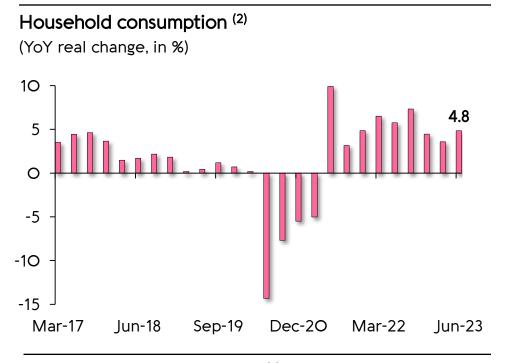
(3) Source: Tax Collection Office, Ministry of Economy and Finance.

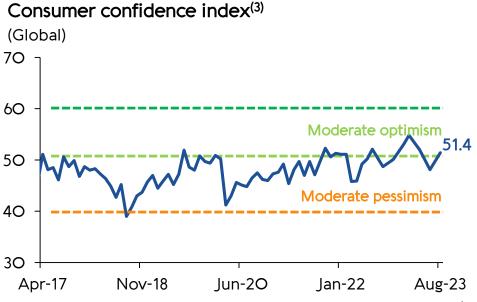
<sup>(4)</sup> Source: Ministry of Tourism, Information for 2020 and 2021 are estimates by the Ministry of Economy and Finance, based on migration data.

## Strong labor market indicators reflected in an upturn in real wage growth, boosting private consumption.









<sup>(1)</sup> Source: National Institute of Statistics.

<sup>(2)</sup> Source: Central Bank of Uruguay.

<sup>(3)</sup> Source: Equipos Consultores and Universidad Católica del Uruguay.

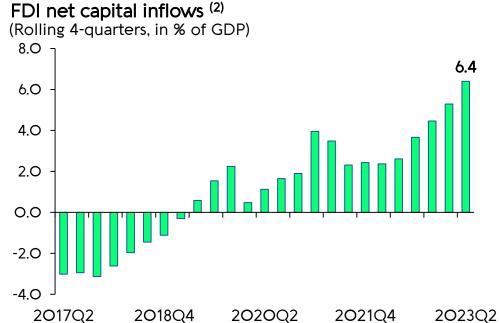
# UPM completed the construction of the second pulp mill, on schedule, allowing them to start production operations; a large FDI project for producing e-fuels is expected to start in late 2024.



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

- The construction of the new UPM plant was completed in December 2022 and the plant began operating in April 2023.
- UPM invested a total of approximately US\$ 3.5 billion (4.8% of GDP) to build a 2.1 million-ton greenfield eucalyptus pulp mill in Durazno and a port terminal in Montevideo.
- The construction of the Central Railway is still ongoing. It will be running from Paso de los Toros city to the port of Montevideo (273 km long).





- On June 8, 2023, ANCAP announced a US\$4 billion investment in infrastructure and facilities designed to produce e-fuels using green hydrogen and captured biogenic carbon dioxide, through a joint venture with HIF Global.
- The project is expected to produce 180,000 metric tons of e-gasolines per year using 710,000 tons of captured carbon dioxide produced by ANCAP's biofuel subsidiary and 100,000 tons of green hydrogen derived from electricity generation produced from expanded wind and solar sources.
- The construction is planned to start in late 2024.

Source: Ministry of Economy and Finance of Uruguay and UPM.

<sup>)</sup> Source: Nimistry of Economy and r



### Fiscal discipline aligned with fiscal rule





Public finances have improved since 2020 as a result of strong commitment to fiscal discipline, and the three pillars of the fiscal rule have been met for three consecutive years (2020-2022); targets for 2023 were set in the Annual Accountability Budget bill sent to Congress in June.





Structural balance(1)

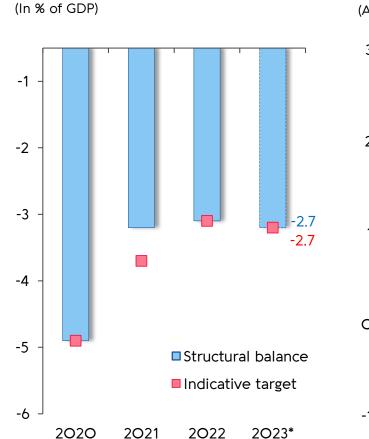
Indicative target on structural fiscal balance, to account for business cycle fluctuations and one-off/temporary spending and revenue items.

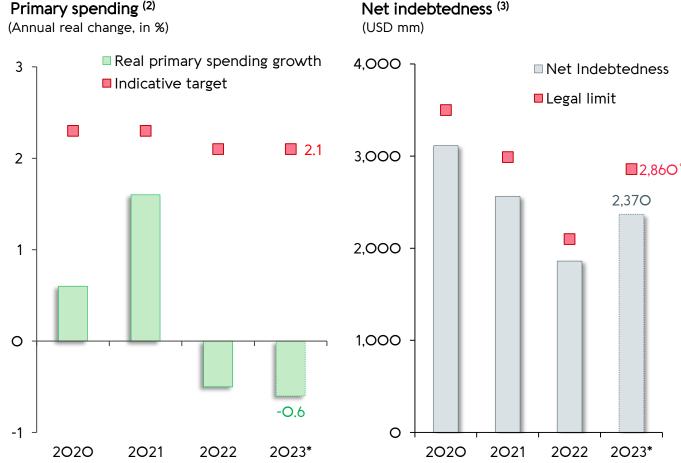


Indicative target cap on real growth in primary expenditure in line with estimated potential real GDP growth



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





Source: Ministry of Economy and Finance of Uruguay, based on the "Proyecto de Ley de Rendición de Cuentas 2022", submitted to Congress by end-June, 2023.

- (1) Structural balance refers to the fiscal outcome adjusted for fiscal items impacted by economic cycle fluctuations and one-off/temporary spending and/or revenues.
- (2) Potential real GDP growth rate for 2023 estimated at 2,1% (i.e. the indicative target for real primary spending growth is 2,1%). For subsequent years, potential real GDP growth estimated at 2,8%.

\*) Projections for 2023.

<sup>(3)</sup> For 2023, the legal net indebtedness cap was increased from USD 2,200 million to USD 2,860 million due to the water deficit emergency, invoking the use of the legal escape clause in the fiscal rule.

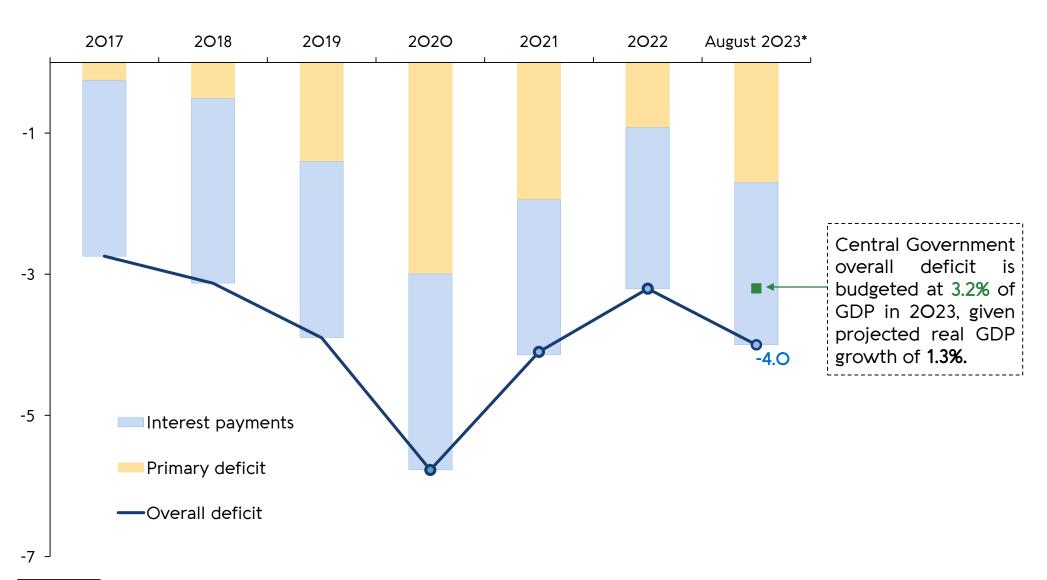
Government Net Indebtedness is defined as gross indebtedness (bond market issuance and disbursed loans) net of amortizations of market debt and loans, and the accumulation of Central Government's financial assets, during the fiscal year.

# Primary fiscal deficit has widened in 2023 — explained by an increase in public infrastructure investment and cyclically softer tax revenues.





(In % of GDP)



Source: Ministry of Economy and Finance of Uruguay and Central Bank of Uruguay, based on the Rendición de Cuentas 2022, submitted to Congress by end-June, 2023. Does not Include extraordinary inflows to the Social Security Trust Fund.



# Enhancing the monetary policy framework and bringing down inflation





## Monetary policies focused on reducing inflation and anchoring inflation expectations within target band.



Commitment to lower inflation as overriding objective

Short-term Interest rate as policy instrument under IT regime

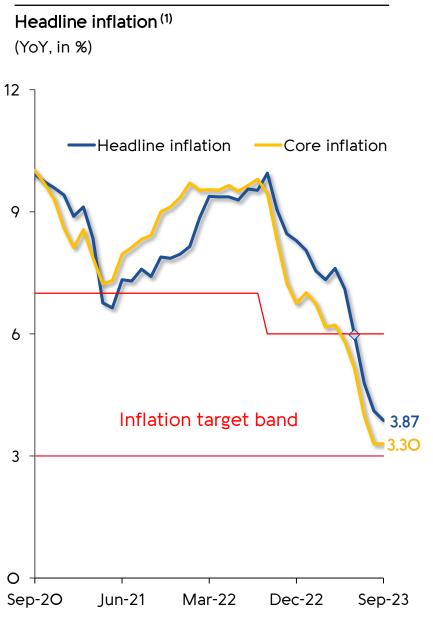
Enhanced transparency in communication

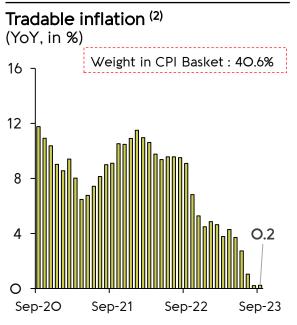
Free-floating exchange rate

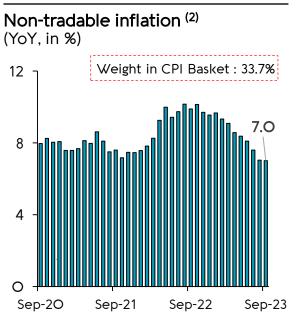
Policies for Financial de-dollarization

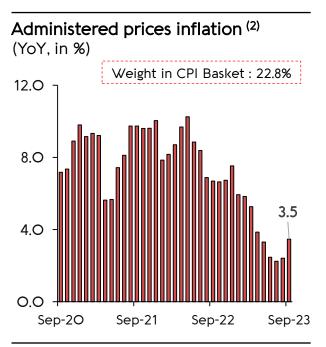
Headline inflation has fallen sharply (to its lowest level in 18 years), on the back of decelerating tradeable and non-tradable inflation, unwinding supply effects from the drought and a restrictive monetary policy.

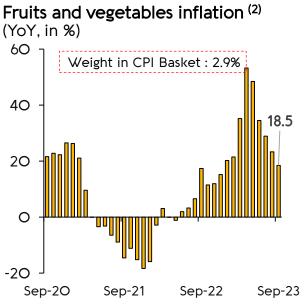












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<sup>(1)</sup> Source: National Institute of Statistics and Central Bank of Uruguay.

<sup>(2)</sup> Source: Central Bank of Uruguay.

### Broad-based deceleration of the pace of price increases.



#### Heatmap for Components of Headline inflation

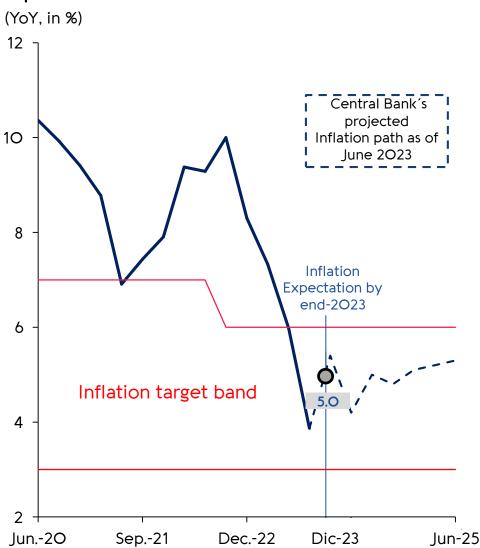
#### Core inflation Non-Tradable (NT) Inflation Rent Beverages Out of Home Foods Out of Home- meats Foods Out of Home- flour Diverse foods and beverages Breads and cereals Diverse services Clothing Inflation Household Communications Recreation and personal 2 **Vehicles** Education Domestic Diverse goods Tradable (T) Inflation Diverse foods Beverages Meats and fish -2 Red meat Poultry meat Meat Others Breads and cereals Non-Food Manufactured Goods Clothing Personal Hygiene Furniture **Appliances** Cleaning Medication Vehicles **Publications** Other **Tradable Services** Jan-22 Jan-23 Jul-22 Aug-23

Note: The data series for each inflation item is adjusted for seasonal variation and standardized relative to the historical average of Trend-cycle component.

### Inflation outturn is in line with Central Bank's projections, and inflation expectations are converging.

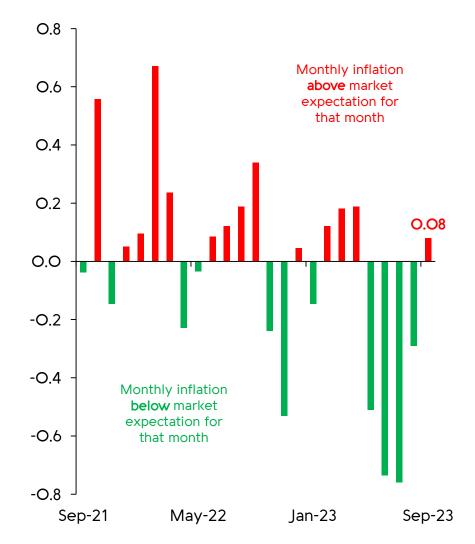


### Central Bank's projected inflation path and inflation expectations (2)



#### Estimated Surprise inflation component (2)

(Difference between MoM headline inflation and MoM median inflation expectation for corresponding month, in %)

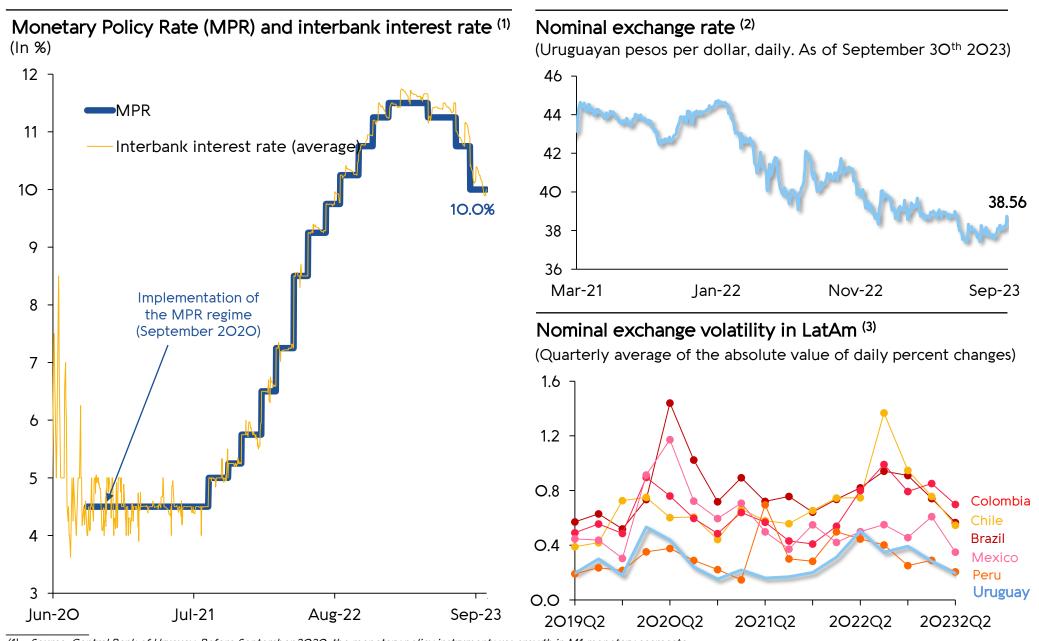


Source: Source: Central Bank of Uruguay. Quarterly forecasts of the baseline scenario as of June 2023. Median inflation expectations based on Central Bank's market survey as of September 15

Source: Central Bank of Uruguay.

Central Bank is gradually reducing the short-term policy rate, while maintaining a contractionary monetary policy stance; FX showed relatively low volatility over the last three years, including during global risk-off episodes.





<sup>(1)</sup> Source: Central Bank of Uruguay. Before September 2020, the monetary policy instrument was growth in M1 monetary aggregate.

<sup>(2)</sup> Source: Central Bank of Uruguay.

<sup>(3)</sup> Source: own calculations based on Bloomberg. Regional and country specific information is as aggregated or reported, as applicable. Each such country information may be calculated differently and aggregated by each respective source using various methodologies. Accordingly, this comparison is for illustrative purposes only and we do not purport assert that the above information is actually comparable.



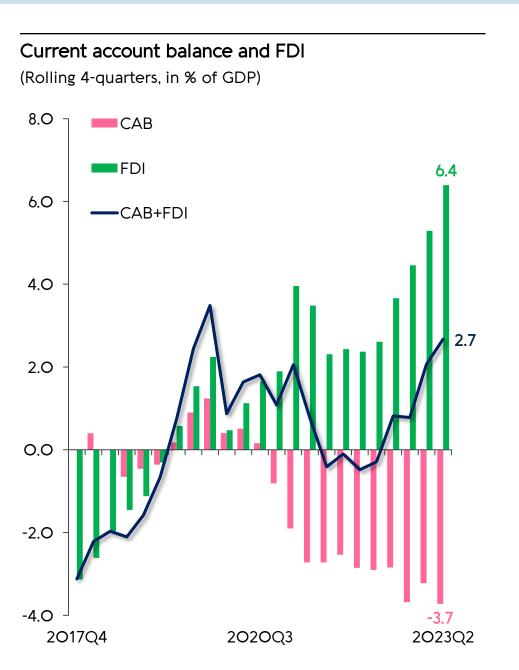
# Stable current account; banking sector with low exposure to the region

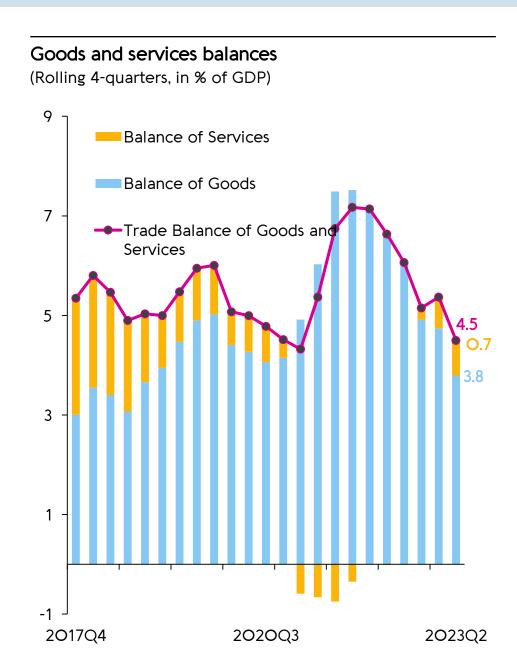




## Current account deficit fully financed by FDI, on the back of a resilient balance of goods and services...

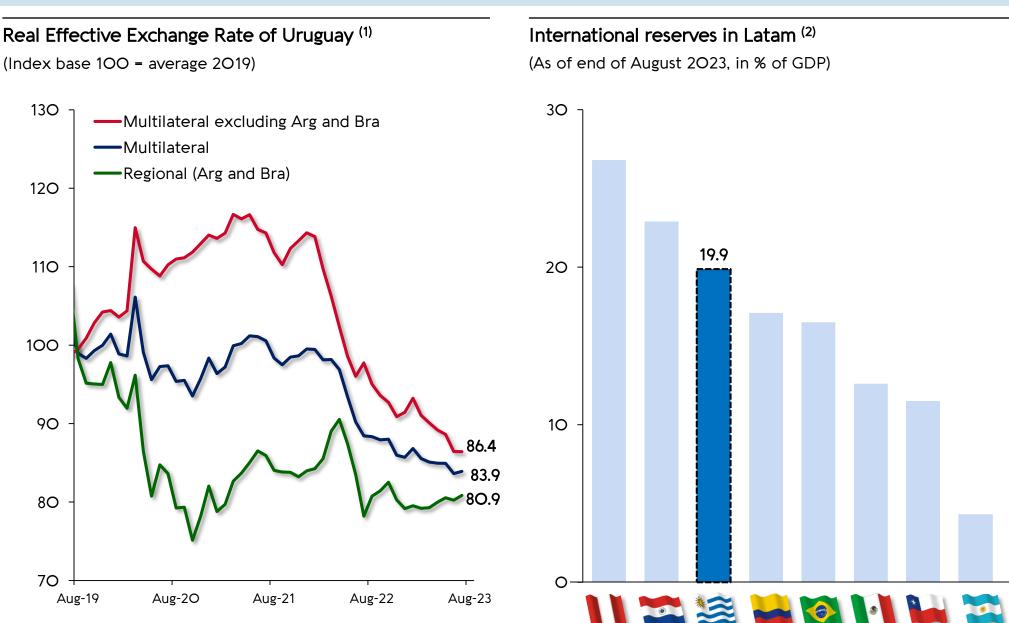






## ...despite real exchange rate appreciation; large international reserve buffers are a significant external backstop.





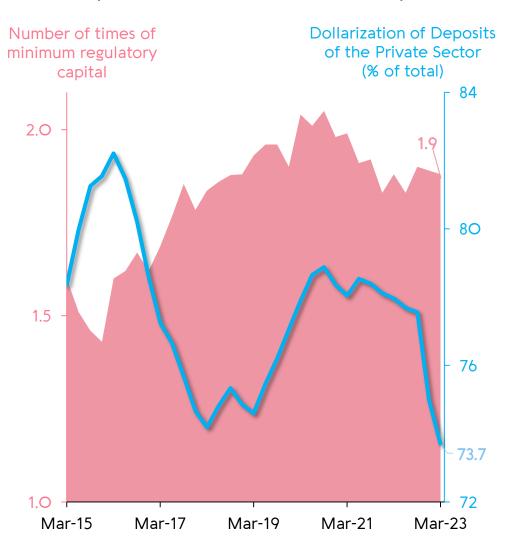
<sup>(1)</sup> Source: Central Bank of Uruguay.

<sup>2)</sup> Source: International Monetary Fund, expect for Uruguay, where international reserves correspond to data from Central Bank of Uruguay. International reserves for Peru correspond to end-September 2023. The nominal GDP in US dollars corresponds to 2023, based on WEO projections as of April 2023. Regional and country specific information is as aggregated or reported, as applicable. Each such country information may be calculated differently and aggregated by each respective source using various methodologies. Accordingly, this comparison is for illustrative purposes only and we do not purport assert that the above information is actually comparable.

# Banking sector remains well-capitalized, with high liquidity levels and low regional exposure, although with still-high deposit dollarization.

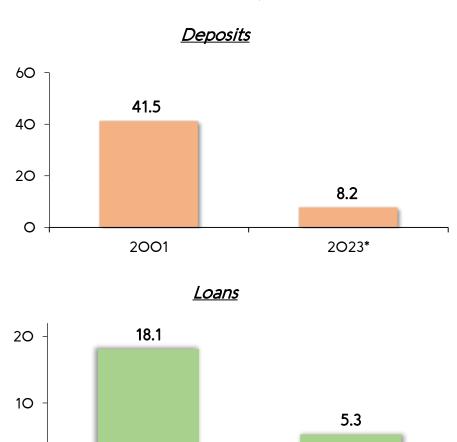


#### Solvency and dollarization of the banking system



#### 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.

2001

2023\*

(\*) As of July 2023.

0



### Government-led structural reforms





### Government forges ahead with structural and fiscallyconservative reforms: "keeping the high-beam headlights on".



Urgent Consideration (*UC*) Law<sup>(1)</sup>

2020-2024 Budget Law



2O21 Budget Review Social Security Reform

Approved on July 9<sup>th</sup>, 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 23<sup>rd</sup> 2O21 and has 9O days onwards to present a comprehensive reform to Congress.
- Draft of new fiscal framework.

Approved on December 18<sup>th</sup>, 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 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2O22

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

Approved on April 27<sup>th</sup>, 2O23

- 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.

<sup>(1)</sup> 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.

## Social Security reform is focused on long-term fiscal sustainability and improving equity of the pension system.





#### Social Security Reform



- The reform plans to consolidate all retirement regimes, converging into a single system. Ten years after the approval (2033) the convergence will start, with the old pension system rules weighing 50% and the new one 50%.
- The new system will gradually replace the old one, and the influence of the systems will be modified by 5% each year. So, the new system will fully take effect by 2O43.
- The approved reform gradually increases the retirement age to 65 years.
- The minimum amount of worked years to retire stands at 3O, although contributing for 35 or 38 years will result in early retirement at 64 or 63, respectively.
- The calculation for pensions will include the best 20 years of income.
- Allows current retirees to participate in the labor market and contribute to the pension system, alleviating fiscal pressures and expanding labor supply.
- Increases benefits for vulnerable groups improving the equity of the system.



# Resilient debt structure and sustainable financing strategies

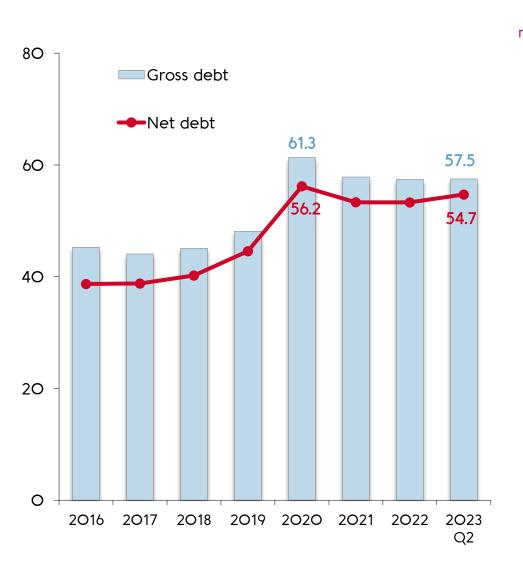




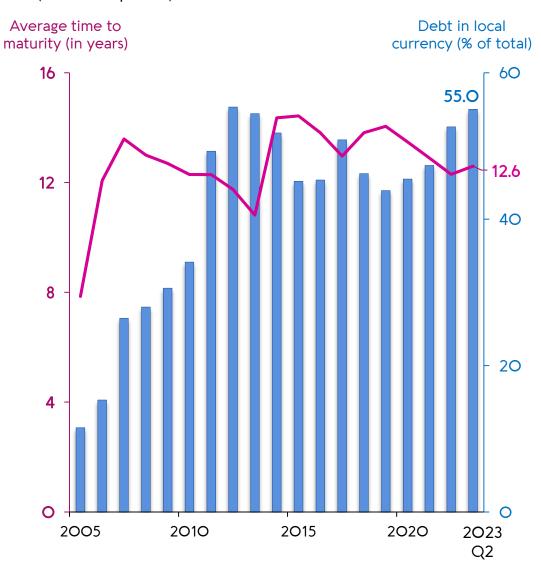
The government debt-to-GDP ratio has decreased since the onset of the pandemic shock, while debt management strategies and relative price effects have significantly reduced the dollarization of debt.



## 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)



## Central Government's funding needs and financing sources for 2023.



Flow of funds (Annual, in USD million)	2023 (*)	2024 (*)
FINANCING NEEDS	5,287	4,454
Primary Deficit <sup>1/</sup>	590	243
Interest Payments <sup>2/</sup>	1,935	2,048
Amortizations of Bonds and Loans <sup>3/</sup>	2,685	2,140
Change in Financial Assets	78	23
FUNDING SOURCES	5,287	4,454
Disbursements from Multilaterals and Fin. Instit.	450	350
Total Issuance of Market Debt <sup>4/</sup>	4,682	3,995
Others (net) <sup>5/</sup>	155	110
Memo Item: Government Net Indebtedness (GNI)	2,370	2,182

<sup>(\*)</sup> Preliminary. The sum of the components may differ from the totals due to rounding.

<sup>(1)</sup> Excludes extraordinary transfers to the public Social Security Trust Fund (SSTF).

<sup>(2)</sup> 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.

<sup>(3)</sup> For 2023, includes the obligations coming due on a contractual basis and bonds repurchased and early redeemed through August 2023.

<sup>(4)</sup> Includes bonds issued domestically and in international markets.

<sup>(5)</sup> 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 goals for the rest of 2023.



- Diversify sources of funding in international markets and continue broadening the investor base, particularly ESG-focused accounts.
- Keep refinancing risk contained through LM operations, precautionary liquidity buffers and contingent credit lines.
- Align sovereign funding strategies (in bond market issuance and multilateral loans) with achieving ambitious environmental targets.



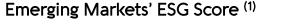
## Strong ESG foundations and low country risk





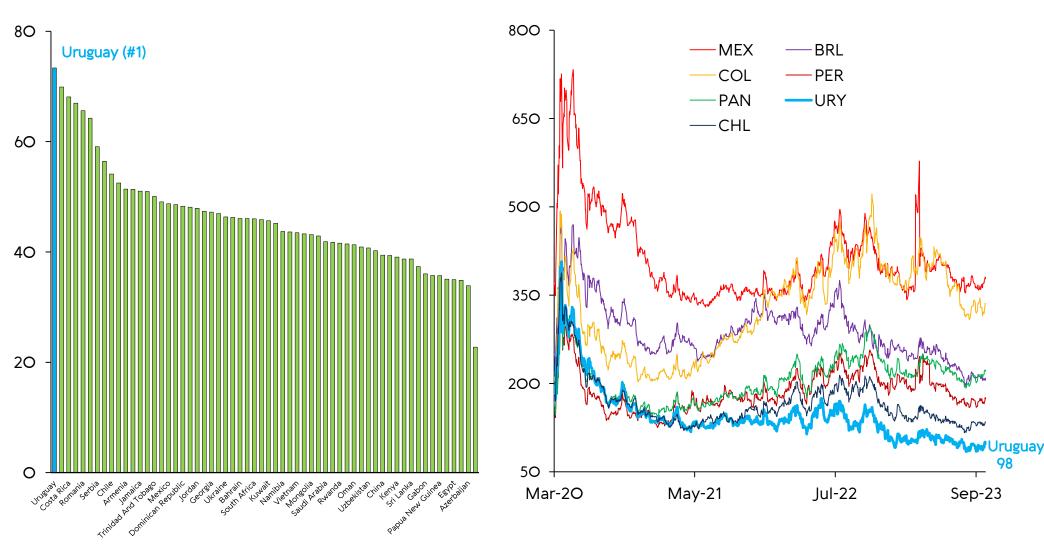
# Uruguay is the top global performer on ESG fundamentals in emerging markets and has the lowest sovereign risk premia in Latin America.





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

Sovereign risk premia in LATAM <sup>(2)</sup> (EMBI spread, in bps; as of end-September, 2023)



<sup>1) 60</sup> countries.

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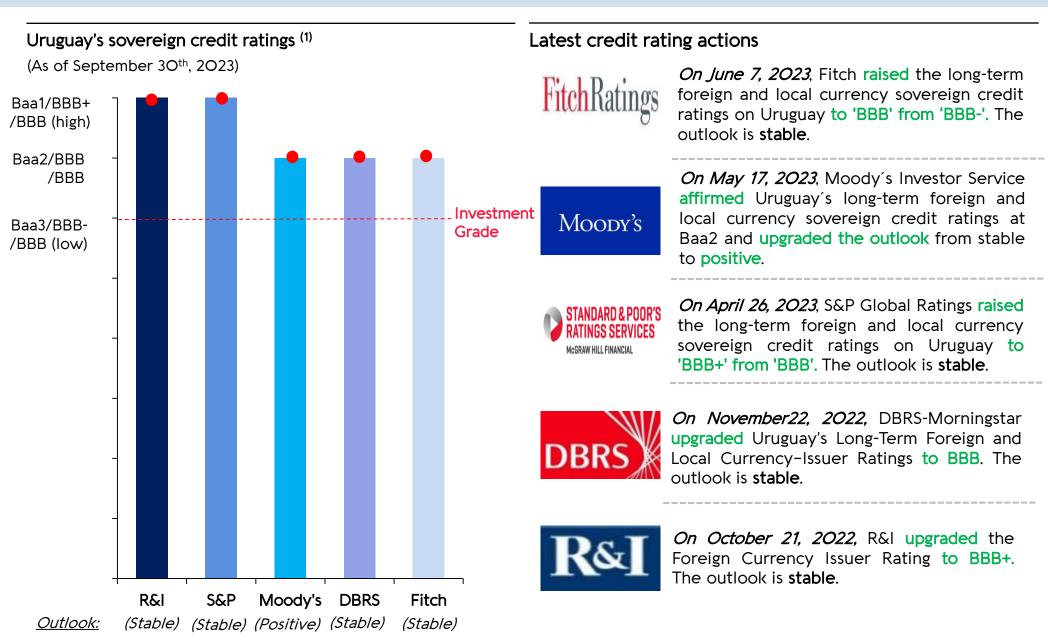
Source: .P. Morgan Chase & Co. using data from Verisk Maplecroft, Sustainalytics and Climate Bonds Initiative .

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<sup>2)</sup> Source: Bloomberg.

In June 2023, Fitch raised Uruguay's credit rating to "BBB"; all five rating agencies now place Uruguay at least one notch above the investment grade threshold, for the first time on record.







# República Oriental del Uruguay

**THANK YOU**