

## **Key Credit Highlights**

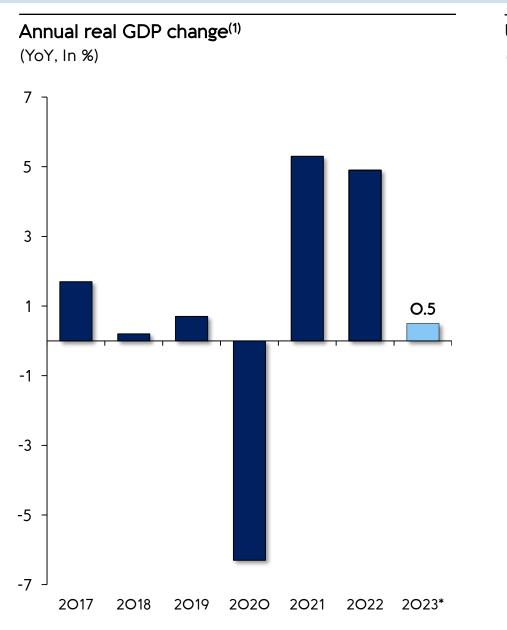


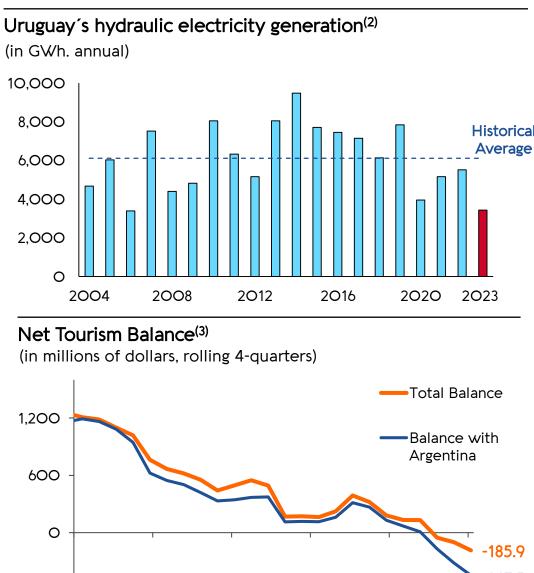
- After sluggish growth in 2023, economic activity is poised to rebound firmly in 2024.
- The Government delivered on all pillars of the fiscal rule in 2023, for the fourth consecutive year.
- Significant deceleration of inflation, which reverted to target band, while inflation expectations reached historic lows.
- Current account deficit is more than financed by FDI, amid real exchange rate appreciation and large international reserve buffers.
- The Government has passed structural and fiscally conservative reforms, including the social security reform law.
- Strengthening in the Government's balance sheet, through a stabilization of the sovereign debt burden and continued improvements in the currency debt structure.
- Uruguay is the top performer on ESG fundamentals among EM countries and has the lowest country risk spread in LATAM.



Economic activity decelerated markedly during 2023, weighed down by a severe drought, lower external demand for agricultural goods and relative prices with Argentina.







-600

Feb-18

Apr-19

Jun-20

Aug-21

Oct-22

(3) Source: Ministry of Tourism.

Dec-23

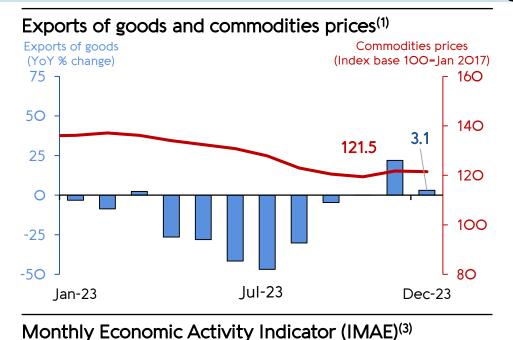
<sup>(1)</sup> Source: Central Bank of Uruguay.

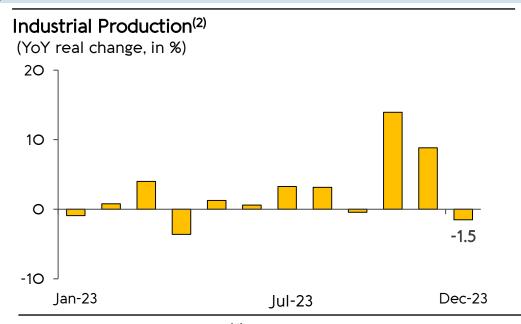
<sup>(\*)</sup> Annual real GDP change for 2023 is based on the latest estimate by the Ministry of Economy and Finance.

<sup>(2)</sup> Source: National Administration of Power Plants and Electrical Transmissions (UTE) and Uruguayan Electric Market Administration (ADME). The historical average was calculated for the period 2004-2023.

Leading indicators suggest that a recovery is underway since the last quarter of 2023, driven by normalization of agricultural production, stronger industrial production by UPM and lower outbound tourism to Argentina.

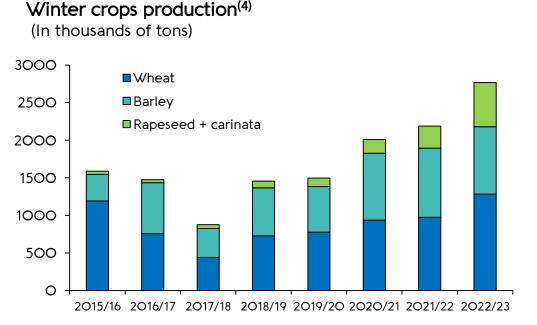






#### IMAE (YoY % change) (level) 15 10 5 - 100

Jun-23



<sup>(1)</sup> Source: BCU and CPA Ferrere, based on Bloomberg and National Institute of Meat (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.

90

80

Nov-23

Jan-23

Source: Ministry of Economy and Finance calculations based on data from the National Institute of Statistics. Data excludes production from the state-owned refinery ANCAP.

<sup>(3)</sup> Source: Central Bank of Uruguay.

Agricultural Statistics Office (DIEA) of the Ministry of Livestock, Agriculture and Fisheries.

## Strong labor market indicators reflected in an upturn in real income growth, has boosted consumer confidence and private consumption.

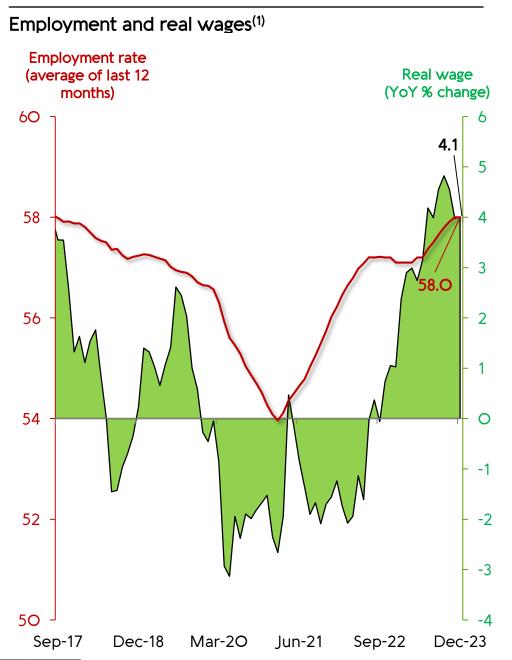
40

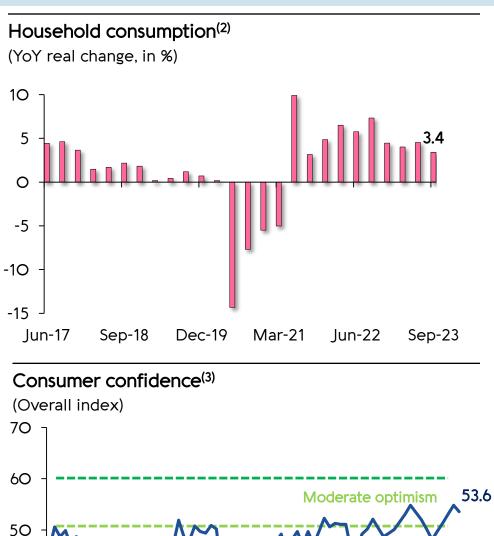
30

Jul-17

Feb-19







Sep-2O

Nov-23

Apr-22

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

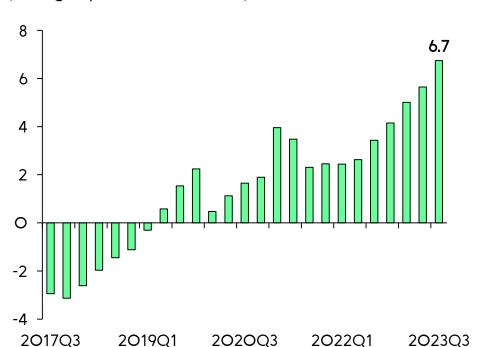
<sup>(2)</sup> Source: Central Bank of Uruguay.

## Uruguay offers a favorable environment for doing business, reflected in strong increase in FDI inflows and prospective large-scale renewable energy projects.



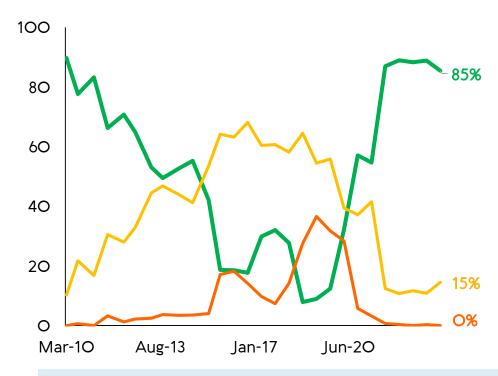
#### FDI net capital inflows(1)

(Rolling 4-quarters, in % of GDP)



- On February 28, 2024, the Government and renewable energy company HIF Global signed a MoU to develop a US\$6 billion investment in infrastructure and renewable energy facilities designed to produce e-fuels using green hydrogen and captured biogenic carbon dioxide.
- In November 2023, the Uruguayan Government presented the strategy for the green hydrogen sector and its derivatives, detailed in a roadmap to the year 2040.





According to **Euromoney (2O22)** Uruguay is ranked:

#1 the safest country in Latin America to invest in. .

#18 the safest country on the planet to invest in.

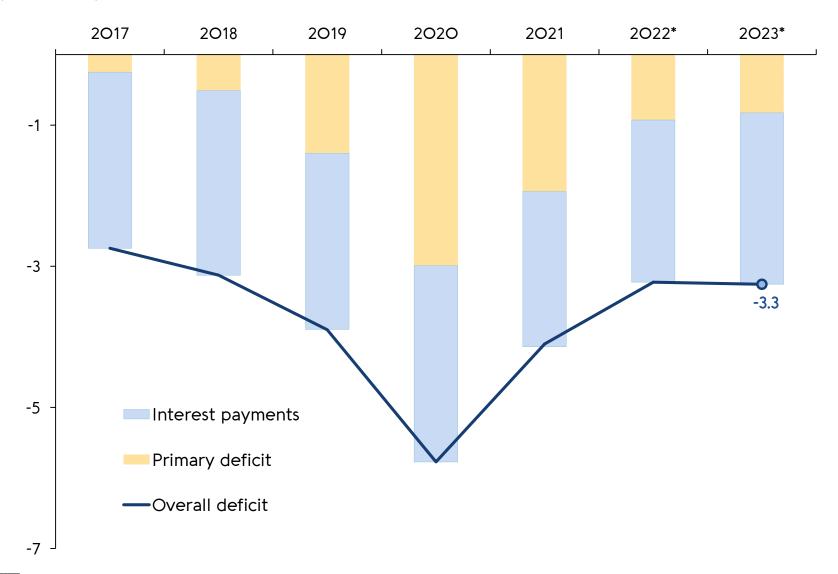
<sup>(1)</sup> Source: Central Bank of Uruguay.

## The fiscal balance outturn in 2023 was broadly aligned with the forecast in the Budget.



#### Central Government's fiscal balance

(In % of GDP)



#### The three pillars of the Fiscal Rule were met in 2023, for the fourth consecutive year, underpinning fiscal credibility.





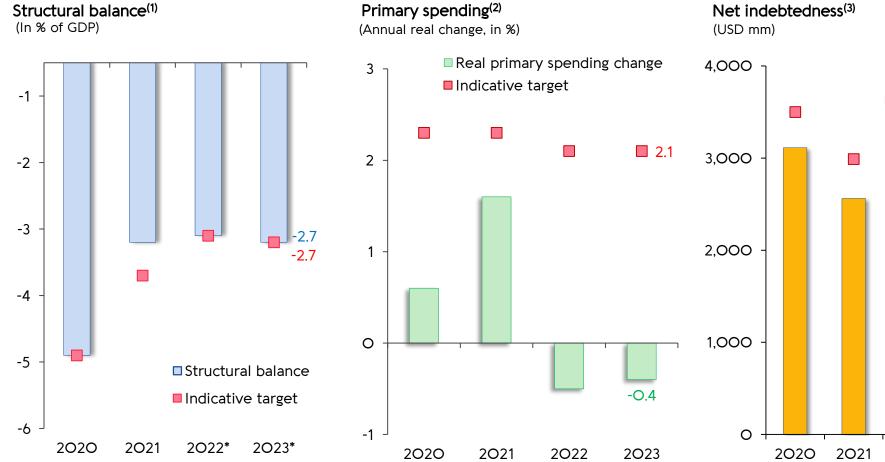
Indicative target on structural fiscal balance, to account for business cycle fluctuations and one-off/temporary spending and revenue items.



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.





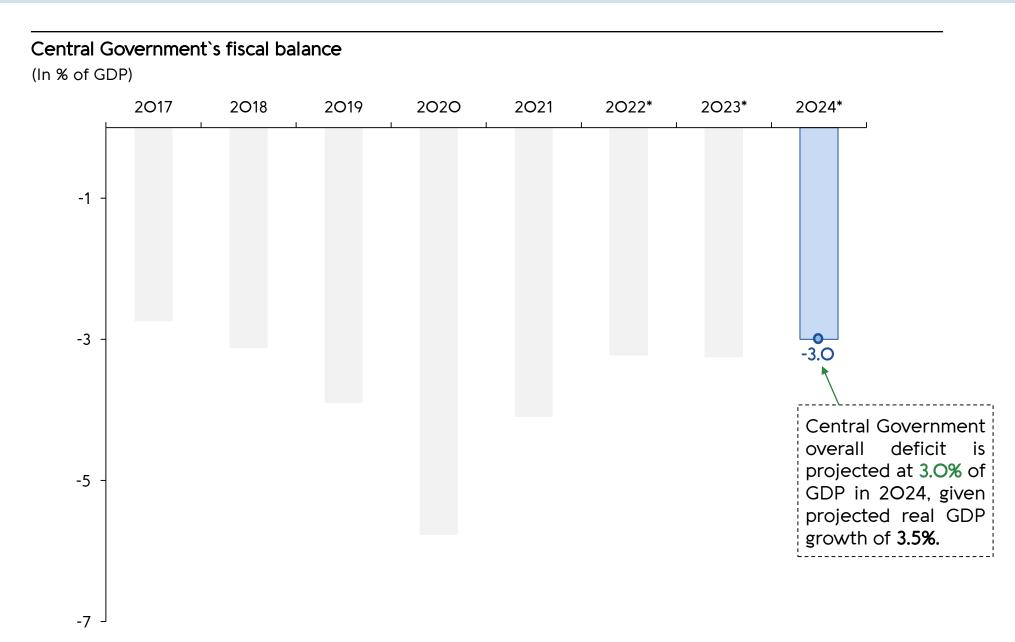
Source: Ministry of Economy and Finance of Uruguay, based on the "Proyecto de Ley de Rendición de Cuentas 2022", submitted to Congress by end-June, 2023.

<sup>(1)</sup> Structural balance refers to the fiscal outcome adjusted for fiscal items impacted by economic cycle fluctuations and one-off/temporary spending and/or revenues.

<sup>(\*)</sup> For 2022 and 2023, annual nominal GDP figures are MoF estimates and projections; official annual GDP figures for 2023 (and revisions for annual GDP for 2022) will be released in March 2024. (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%. (3) 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 change in Central Government's financial assets, during the fiscal year.

## The fiscal projection for 2024 implies a reduction in the headline fiscal deficit as a share of GDP, compared to 2023.





Source: Ministry of Economy and Finance of Uruguay and Central Bank of Uruguay. Does not Include extraordinary inflows to the Social Security Trust Fund.

(\*) For 2022, 2023 and 2024, annual nominal GDP figures are MoF estimates and projections; official annual GDP figures for 2023 (and revisions for annual GDP for 2022) will be released in March 92024.

## Targets for the three pillars of the fiscal rule are set for 2024.





Indicative target on structural fiscal balance.



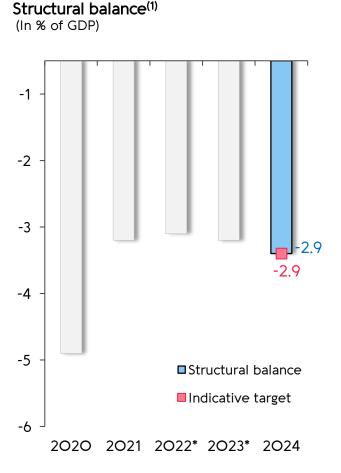
Primary spending<sup>(2)</sup>

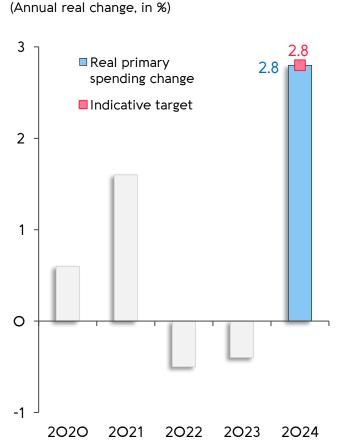
Indicative target cap on real growth in primary expenditure.

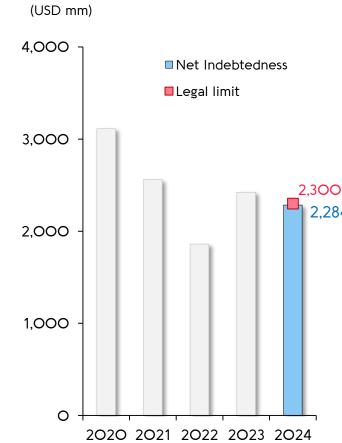


Net indebtedness(3)

Legally binding maximum level of annual net indebtedness.







Source: Ministry of Economy and Finance of Uruguay,

<sup>(1)</sup> Structural balance refers to the fiscal outcome adjusted for fiscal items impacted by economic cycle fluctuations and one-off/temporary spending and/or revenues.

(\*) For 2022 and 2023, annual nominal GDP figures are MoF estimates and projections; official annual GDP figures for 2023 (and revisions for annual GDP for 2022) will be released in March 2024.

(2) Potential real GDP growth rate for 2023 estimated at 2,1%. For subsequent years, potential real GDP growth estimated at 2,8% (i.e. the indicative cap for real primary spending growth is 2.8%).

(3) For 2024, the legal net indebtedness cap is USD 2,300 million.



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



Commitment to lower inflation as overriding objective

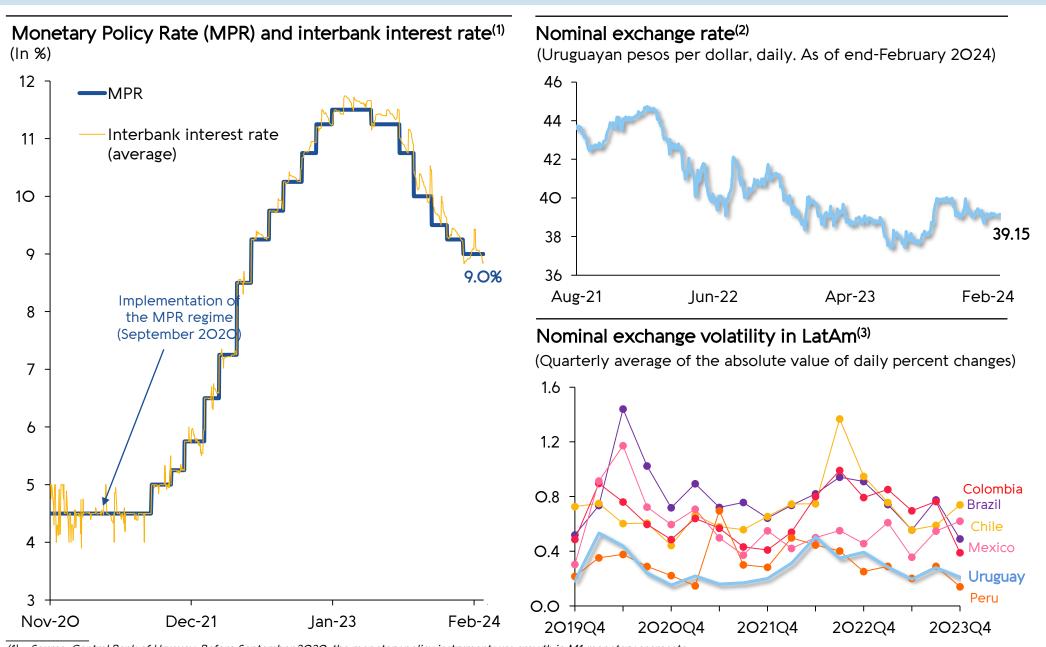
Short-term Interest rate as policy instrument under IT regime

- Enhanced transparency in communication
- Free-floating exchange rate

Policies for Financial de-dollarization

The contractionary monetary policy starting at the end of 2021 bore fruit and made it possible, a year later, to gradually lower the reference rate; FX has showed relatively low volatility.





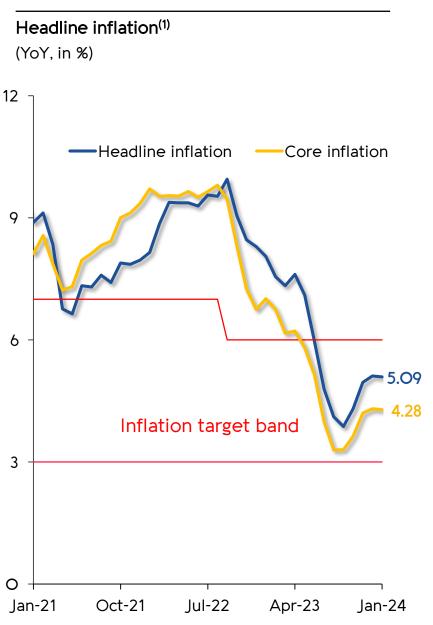
<sup>(1)</sup> Source: Central Bank of Uruguay. Before September 2020, the monetary policy instrument was growth in M1 monetary aggregate.

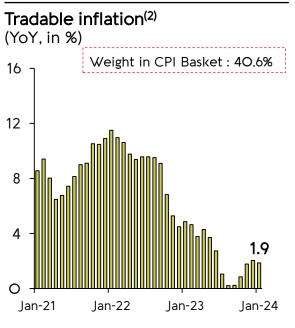
<sup>(2)</sup> Source: Central Bank of Uruguay.

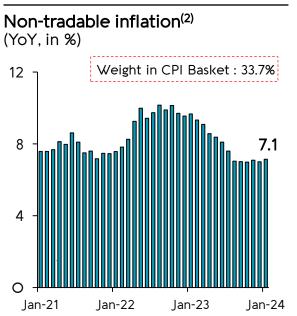
<sup>(3)</sup> Source: own calculations based on Bloomberg. Regional and country specific information is as aggregated or reported, as applicable. Each such country information may be calculated differently and aggregated by each respective source using various methodologies. Accordingly, this comparison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

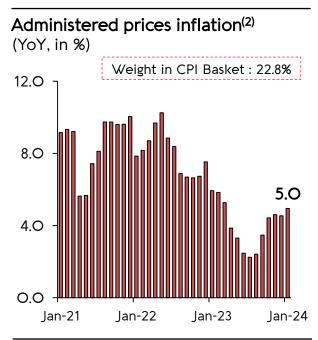
## Headline inflation continues to remain within the target band, for the eighth consecutive month.

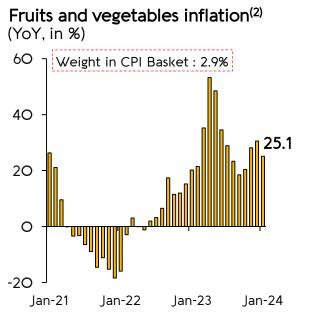












Source: National Institute of Statistics and Central Bank of Uruguay.

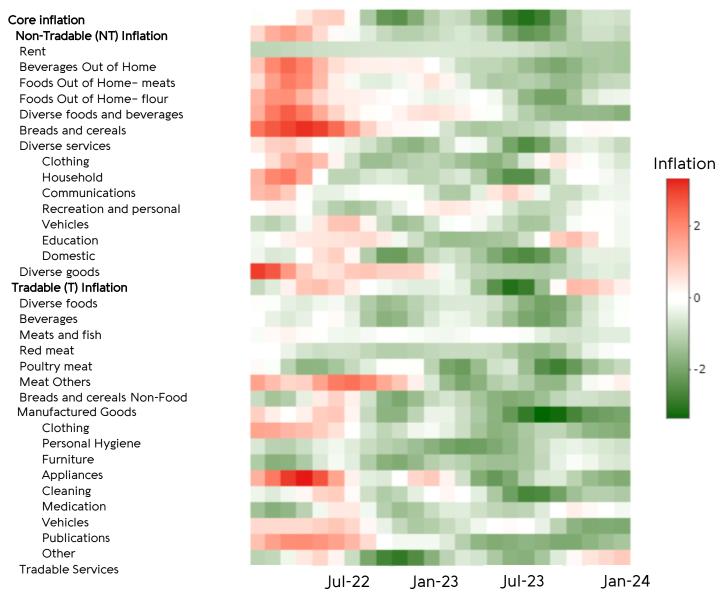
Source: Central Bank of Uruguay.

Core inflation excludes fruit and vegetables as well as administered prices.

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



#### Heatmap for Components of Headline inflation



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

## Consumer prices outturn aligns with Central Bank's projections; inflation expectations have fallen to historic lows.



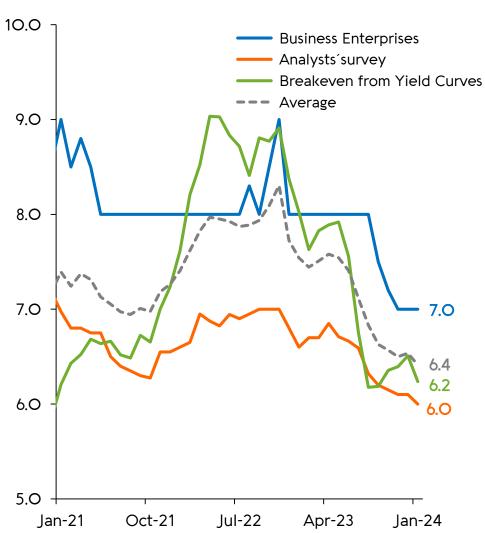


(YoY in %, quarterly frequency)



#### Inflation expectations(2)

(24-month ahead, median)



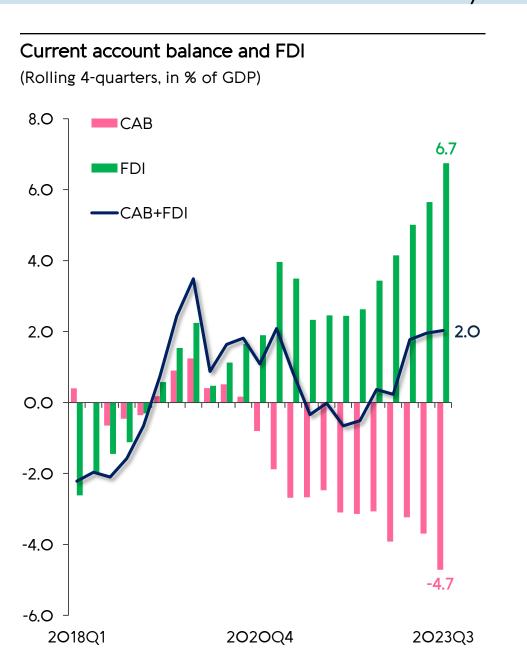
<sup>(1)</sup> Source: Source: Central Bank of Uruguay. Quarterly forecasts of the baseline scenario as of December 2023.

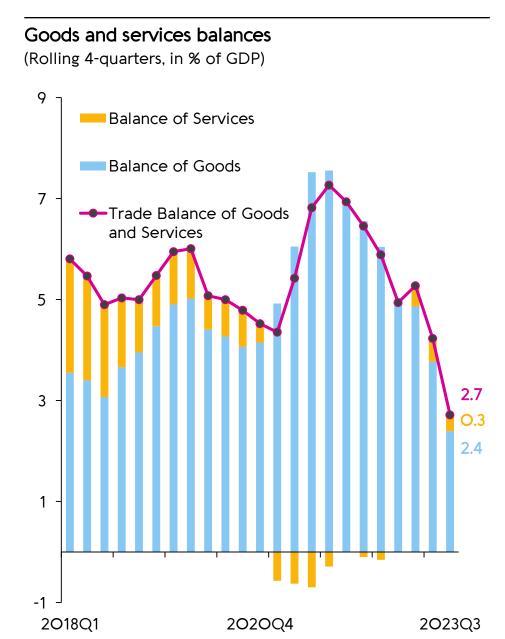
<sup>(2)</sup> Source: Central Bank of Uruguay and National Institute of Statistics. As of February 2024.



# Current account deficit has widened on the back of lower trade balance on goods, although is fully financed by FDI.

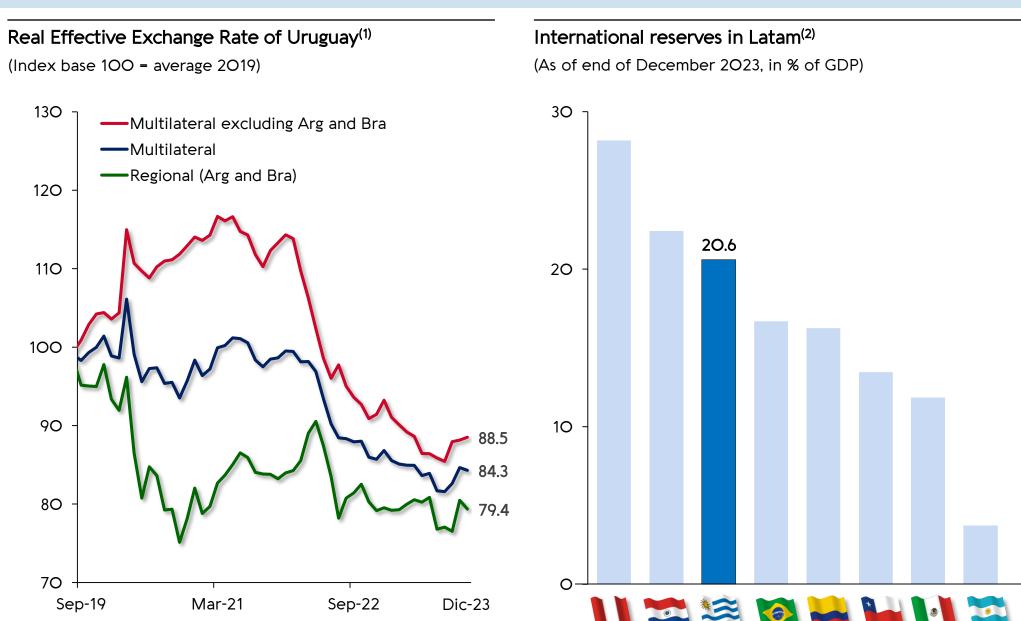






## Large international reserve buffers are a significant external backstop.





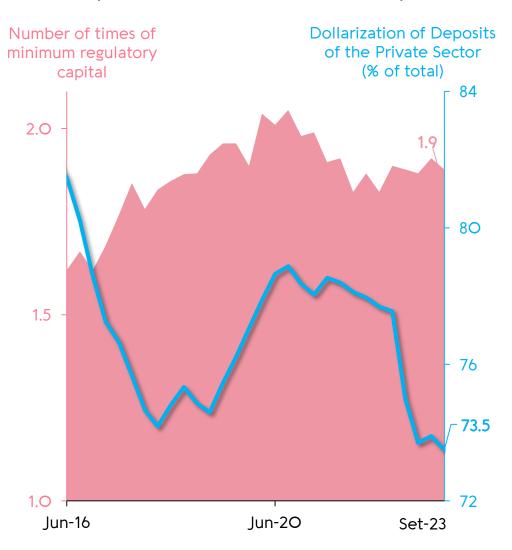
<sup>(1)</sup> Source: Central Bank of Uruguay.

<sup>(2)</sup> Source: International Monetary Fund, except for Uruguay, where international reserves correspond to data from Central Bank of Uruguay. International reserves for Peru, Colombia and Brazil correspond to end-January 2024. The nominal GDP in US dollars corresponds to 2023, based on WEO projections as of October 2023 except for Uruguay where nominal GDP correspond to data from Central Bank of Uruguay. 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.

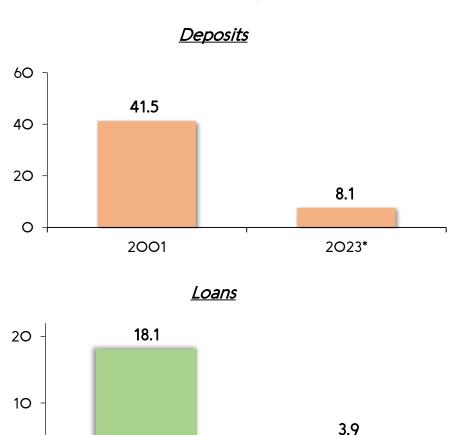


#### Solvency and dollarization of the banking system



#### 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.

2023\*

(\*) As of December 2023.

2001

0

# Government has forged ahead with structural and fiscally-conservative 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.

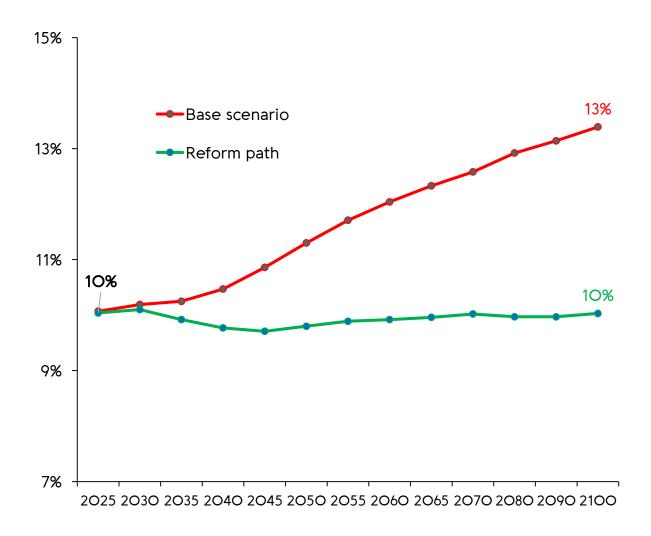
<sup>(1)</sup> On March 27th, 2022, a public referendum was held on whether to repeal, or uphold, 135 articles of the Urgent Consideration Law voted in 2020. The majority of the population (51,3%) voted in favour of upholding them.

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



- Necessary: given challenging demographic trends<sup>(1)</sup>, intra and intergenerational justice, sustainability<sup>(2)</sup>, and system fragmentation<sup>(3)</sup>.
- Gradual: Retirement age increases gradually, starting from individuals born in 1973 onwards.
- Fairer: sustains elevated levels of coverage, with each contribution being significant. The "Supplementary Solidarity" program ensures a minimum income in old age.
- Sustainable: covers future pension expenditure.

Projection of Expenditures for Pensions, Disability and Survivorship (4) (In % of GDP)<sup>(5)</sup>



<sup>(1)</sup> The significant reduction in the number of births, coupled with the increasing life expectancy observed in our country, represents a rapid progress of demographic aging.

<sup>(2)</sup> Public spending on pensions is at relatively high levels and follows an unsustainable trajectory.

<sup>(3)</sup> The high fragmentation of the current system results in inequalities in rights and obligations among individuals. Every peso contributed to the system benefits in varying amounts and characteristics, depending on the affiliation sector or pension scheme of individuals, even within BPS.

<sup>(4)</sup> Source: Social Security Bank (BPS).

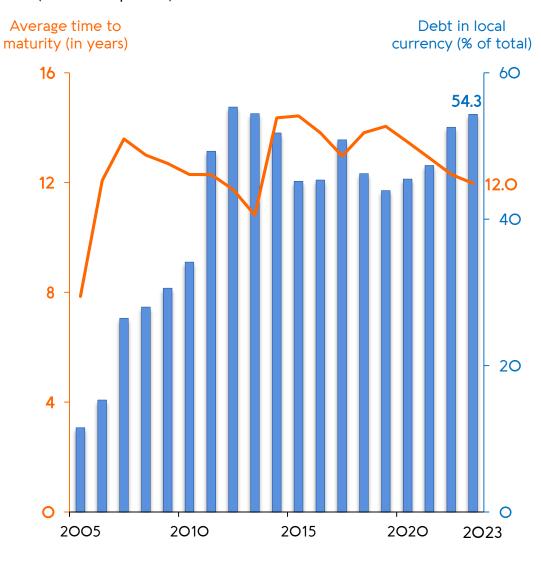
<sup>(5)</sup> Includes the BPS, Armed Forces Retirement and Pension Service and Police Social Security Fund.

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

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

# Gross debt Net debt 57.2 56.2 53.5

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



2019

2020

2021 2022\* 2023\*

2018

2017

20

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



#### Flow of funds

(Annual, in USD million)

	2023 <sup>(*)</sup>	2024 <sup>(Proj.)</sup>
FINANCING NEEDS	5,365	4,752
Primary Deficit <sup>1/</sup>	652	415
Interest Payments <sup>2/</sup>	1,898	2,080
Amortizations of Bonds and Loans <sup>3/</sup>	2,838	2,068
Change in Financial Assets	-23	189
FUNDING SOURCES	5,365	4,752
Disbursements from Multilaterals and Fin. Instit.	1,011	616
Total Issuance of Market Debt <sup>4/</sup>	4,228	3,925
Others (net) <sup>5/</sup>	126	211
Memo Item: Government Net Indebtedness (GNI)	2,424	2,284

<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.

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

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

<sup>(5)</sup> Captures the net effect of financing operations that do not have an impact on gross debt statistics; valuation effects from bond issuance prices above or below par; and financial sources of cash increases for the Treasury that do not entail a government revenue in fiscal statistics.

## Cornerstones of debt management strategy and sustainable financing goals for 2024.

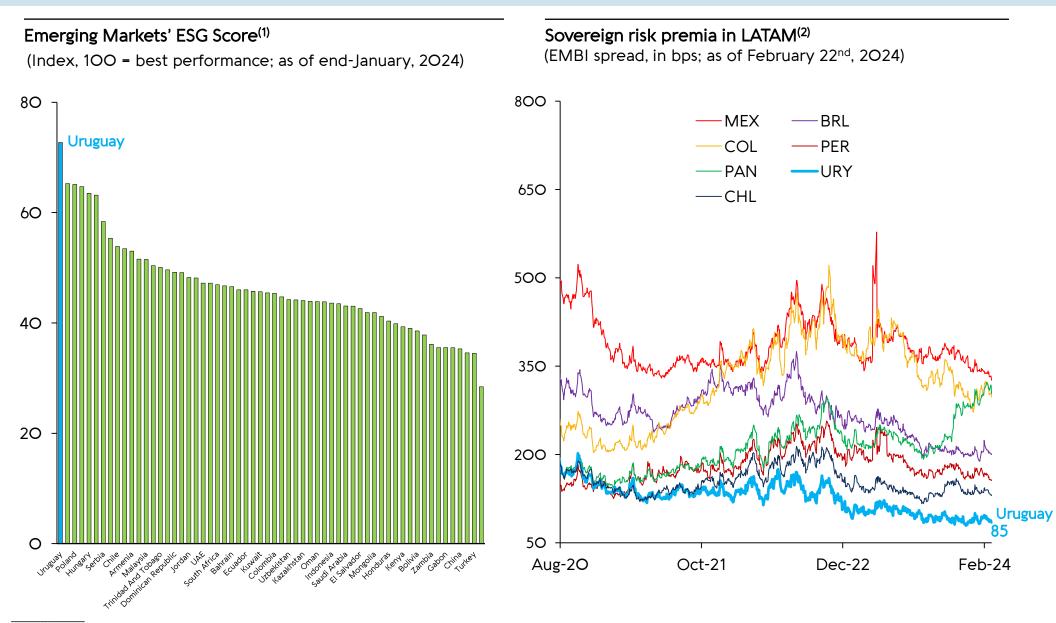


- Domestic markets. Deepening market depth through the issuance of nominal fixed-rate, CPI-linked and wage-linked Treasury Notes benchmarks, across different maturities. The DMU will maintain flexibility in its issuance of local securities, assessing changes in investor demand, in coordination with the Central Bank.
- International Markets. Calibrate the currency and maturity mix of international debt issuance (in nominal pesos, CPI-linked and/or Dollars, either in the belly or long-end of the curve). The strategy will factor, inter alia: (i) resident and non-resident investor's preferences for type of currency, liquidity and duration and (ii) the government's goal to reduce the expected cost of funding while keeping a well distributed amortization.
- Multilateral lending. Continue to integrate sustainable finance when borrowing from multilateral institutions. Uruguay is working on a sustainability-linked loan from the InterAmerican Development Bank within its recently launched CLIMA pilot program, that will embed financial rewards if Uruguay achieves energy efficiency goals.



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





<sup>1) 61</sup> countries.

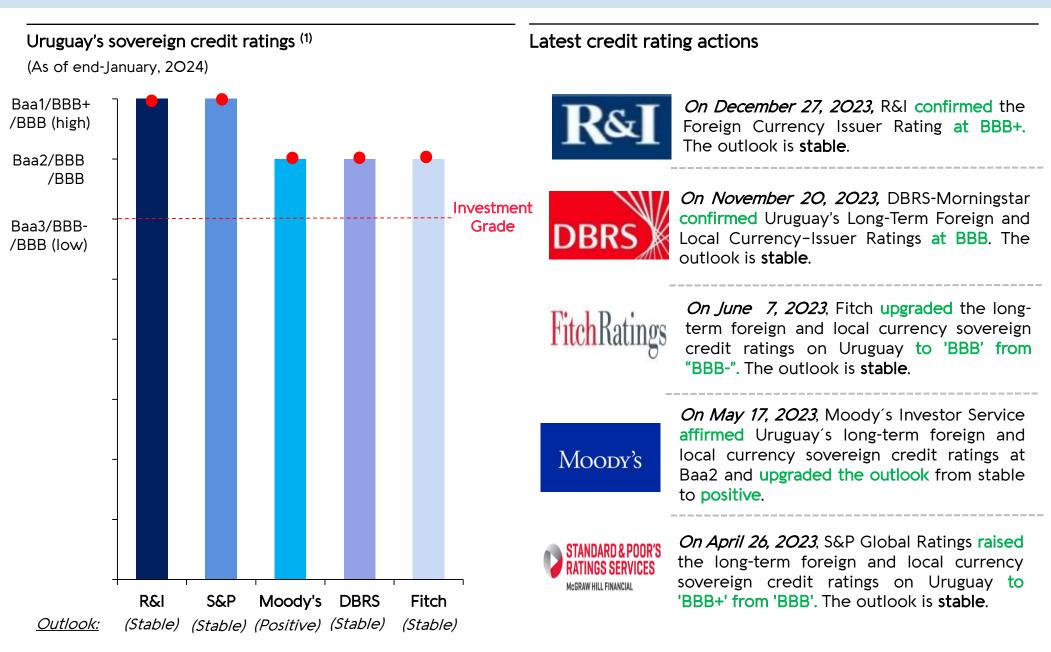
Source: .P. Morgan Chase & Co. using data from Verisk Maplecroft, Sustainalytics and Climate Bonds Initiative .

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

## All five rating agencies place Uruguay at least one notch above the investment grade threshold, for the first time on record.







# República Oriental del Uruguay

**THANK YOU**