



BUSINESS CASE

CONSTRUCTION SECTOR

IN URUGUAY



_1

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The construction sector plays a key role in Uruguay's economy, employing around **120,000¹** people and accounting for **8%** of the national GDP with an annual contribution of **USD 3.73 billion²**. Construction accounts for **60%³** of the country's economic investment, **70%** of which comes from the private sector.

The institutional framework is led by the **Chamber of Construction** of Uruguay (CCU), a business association created in **1919**, which brings together 90 companies, including the most relevant ones in the sector.

Uruguay's strength in this sector is based on the following pillars:



STRONG INSTITUTIONAL FRAMEWORK

transparency and a solid ecosystem



SCALABILITY AND FLEXIBLE CAPACITY



HIGHLY QUALIFIED TALENT

with high levels of specialization



WORK EXPERIENCE

with large, world-class international counterparts



RESPONSIBILITY

in compliance with labor legislation and labor relations



FINANCIAL SOUNDNESS

and efficient risk management throughout the life cycle of a project

Uruguayan construction companies have expanded internationally and have extensive experience, particularly in the region. The main destinations for their projects are Argentina, Bolivia, Peru, Chile, Colombia, and Paraguay.

¹ According to data from the National Statistics Institute (INE, for its acronym in Spanish) - Employment distribution, by sector of activity (2024)

² According to data from the Central Bank of Uruguay (BCU, for its acronym in Spanish) - Statistical series of GDP by industry (2024)

³ Data estimated by the Chamber of Construction of Uruguay (CCU)

Among other markets outside the region, exports are registered to Spain, Türkiye, France, India, and Central American countries.

Uruguayan companies have built a solid track record in the region by participating in high-impact projects. In Colombia, for example, a national company with Uruguayan professionals is leading the construction of a 25-megawatt biomass plant for one of the leading companies in the sector at the international stage. In the same country, another Uruguayan company has positioned itself as a leader in the construction of solar parks, with more than a third of all solar projects built there.

Meanwhile, in Argentina, Uruguayan companies also stand out for their contribution to wind energy and electrical infrastructure projects, working for highly relevant clients.

These companies' exports include construction services (construction at destination), installation, operation, and maintenance services, consulting services, project development, and project management.

Regarding the sale of specific goods, Uruguay exports industry-related goods and machinery, custom-made for construction projects, such as boilers, mills, electrical panels, and measuring instruments.

This is an industry with a significant spillover effect and the unique characteristic of having a positive impact both inside and outside the country. The export of construction companies- depending on the type of contract- involves

Invoicing of goods and/or services from Uruguay to international markets.



Transfer of personnel from Uruguay to different destinations, contributing to their professional development.



Eventually, the opening of offices and hiring of human resources abroad.



In summary, this is a dynamic industry with a significant impact on the economy and growing international expansion that drives employment, investment, and the export of goods and services.

_2

SIZE OF THE CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY IN URUGUAY

EMPLOYMENT

The industry employs around **8%** of the working population in Uruguay and ranks fifth as a source of employment among economic activities (including direct construction workers, professionals, technicians, administrative staff, and indirect workers).

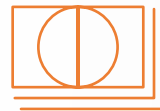
CONTRIBUTION TO GDP AND DRIVING CAPACITY

The sector's GDP was **USD 3.73 billion in 2024**. The added value of the construction sector represents approximately **8%** of the national GDP.

INTERNATIONAL PRESENCE

Uruguayan construction companies have offices in several countries, including Argentina, Paraguay, Peru, Bolivia, Chile, and Colombia.

The sector's institutional framework is mainly composed of the CCU, which brings together around 90 companies representing most of the sector's market in the country. It has a long history, being a century-old institution.



GDP

USD **3.73** billion in 2024⁴



60%

8% of GDP

of investment in the country's economy

120,000

employed people



8% of the

employed population



Offices in several countries, including:

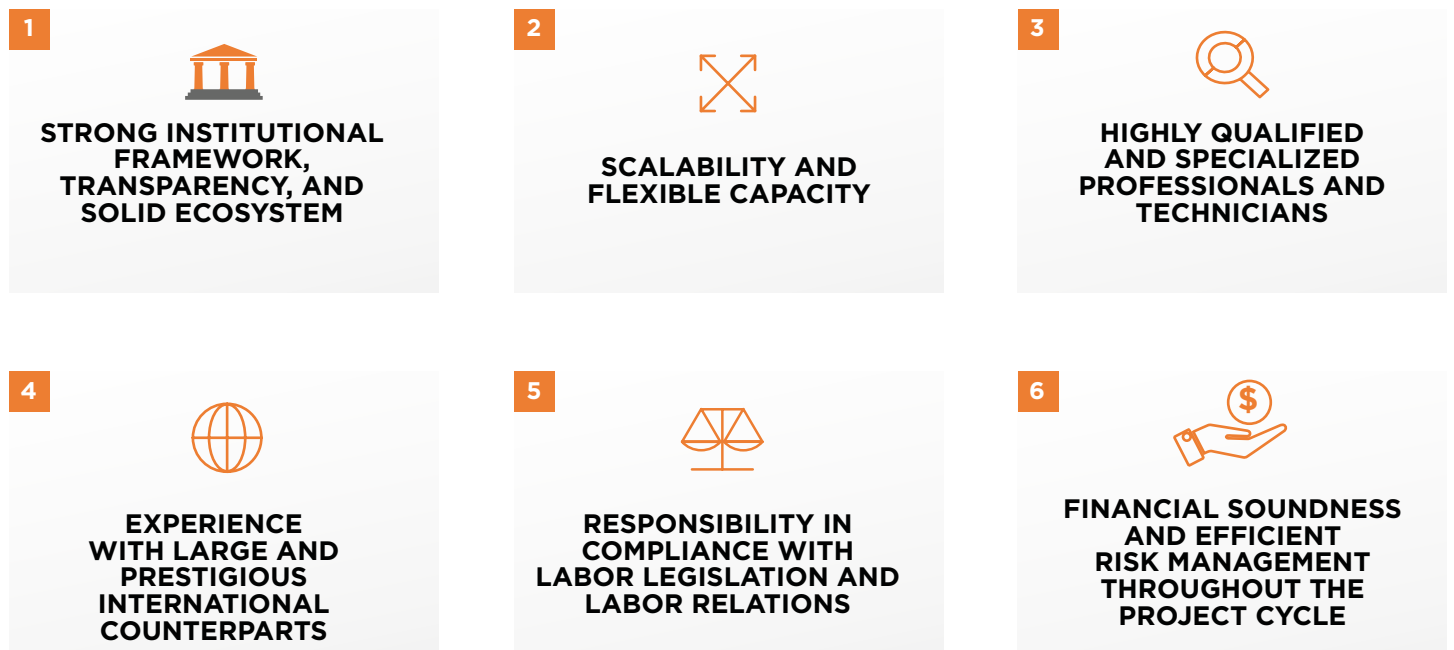
Argentina, Perú, Chile
Paraguay, Bolivia, Colombia

⁴ According to data from BCU - Statistical series of GDP by industry (2024)

_3

SECTOR VALUE PROPOSITION

The value proposition of this sector is based on the following pillars.



STRONG INSTITUTIONAL FRAMEWORK, TRANSPARENCY, AND SOLID ECOSYSTEM

Uruguay has a solid national sectoral ecosystem that involves academia, trade associations, businesses, and professionals, as well as public and private organizations.

SECTOR ECOSYSTEM

CONSTRUCTION TRADE ASSOCIATIONS



PRIVATE AND PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS LINKED TO CONSTRUCTION



PUBLIC SECTOR ORGANIZATIONS



UNIVERSITIES AND TECHNICAL SCHOOLS



PUBLIC-PRIVATE ORGANIZATIONS



SOCIAL FUNDS FOR CONSTRUCTION



Inter-institutional coordination within the sector has been instrumental in promoting and accelerating the adoption of new technologies and improving productivity and competitiveness.

The institutional strength of the sector is linked to the long tradition and history of some of the organizations that comprise it. For reference, the CCU, the School of Architecture, Design, and Urbanism of the University of the Republic (FADU),

the School of Engineering of the University of the Republic (FING), the Association of Architects of Uruguay (SAU), and the Association of Engineers of Uruguay (AIU) are all century-old institutions.

In Uruguay, which has a population of nearly three and a half million, 299,377 people are enrolled in university programs. Of these, 21,930 are enrolled in university programs related to construction.

The construction sector accounts for **7% of university enrollment**.

In addition, the number of training programs coordinated and organized by the CCU has grown considerably in the last five years and has also diversified according to the different areas of work involved in the industry.

For instance: series of workshops on innovation

and digitalization applied to construction, training in BIM, and Lean Construction conferences. Each year, the CCU reaches more than a thousand people with its training activities and events.

This solid institutional ecosystem has been—and continues to be—a foundation for the development of a strong and innovative business sector, which has the capacity to lead and coordinate diverse projects in terms of:



_4

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

The business opportunities for an international company with an Uruguayan construction company are as follows:

1_ LOCAL PARTNER FOR THE REGIONAL EXPANSION OF A COMPANY INTERNATIONAL

2_ SPECIALIZED AND RELIABLE SUPPLIER FOR MEDIUM AND LARGE-SCALE PROJECTS

3_ LOCAL PARTNER FOR LARGE PROJECTS IN URUGUAY

Uruguay's offer of exportable goods and services in the construction sector consists of:

Construction

Consulting services, project development, and project management.

Installation, operation and maintenance services.

Specific goods: industry-related goods and machinery, custom-made for a project.

For instance, boilers, mills, measuring instruments.

CHARACTERISTICS OF EXPORTS BY CONSTRUCTION COMPANIES⁶

A high percentage of Uruguayan companies that offer construction-related export services report high revenue levels, which is due to the nature of the offered services, where some projects tend to be labor-intensive.

In terms of participation in the project life cycle, exporting companies tend to be involved in construction and post-construction support.

Regarding the segments they operate in, there is a strong presence in the areas of building, road construction, and civil engineering (ports, bridges, etc.).

In terms of the type of clients abroad, many Uruguayan companies have already worked on several projects for the public sector, but they have also forged important ties with the private sector, for example: other construction companies, industrial companies, engineering firms, real estate developers, and investment funds.

_5

EXPERIENCE WITH LARGE-SCALE, WORLD- CLASS INTERNATIONAL COUNTERPARTS

It is common for international companies to participate in large projects carried out in Uruguay, working together with local companies under different partnership formats.

This means that Uruguayan firms have incorporated working with international counterparts as a standard practice, which is part of the business culture.

THE CENTRAL RAILWAY PROJECT

The **“Central Railway” Project** is one of the most important infrastructure projects in the country in the last 50 years. The project involved the rehabilitation of 273 km of railway line connecting the city of Paso de los Toros (Tacuarembó) with the Port of Montevideo, as well as the construction of 30 road bridges and 250 level crossings. **The project allows for the transport of more than 4 million tons of cargo**, mainly cellulose pulp produced at UPM’s second plant.

The Uruguayan companies **Saceem** and **Berkes**, the Spanish company **Sacyr** and the French company NGE make up the Grupo Vía Central (GVC) consor-

tium, which was in charge of the Central Railway project for the Ministry of Transport and Public Works (MTO). GVC is also responsible for maintaining the line for a period of 18 years.



_6

RESPONSIBILITY IN COMPLIANCE WITH LABOR LEGISLATION AND LABOR RELATIONS

There is effective and agile coordination between the business sector, workers, and the government. The construction sector has been a pioneer in tripartite and bipartite dialogue mechanisms, with working groups and specialized committees that bring stakeholders together to address concerns and support the sector's development.

In these areas, work is carried out specifically on issues related to occupational health and safety, labor relations, and regulations.

On average, **34% of the certifications in quality, environmental management, and occupational health and safety** issued by UNIT Uruguay correspond to companies in the industry. The number of certified companies in the sector has been increasing since 2020, showing the sector's predominance in relation to others.

NUMBER OF CERTIFIED COMPANIES IN THE SECTOR:

ISO 9001

Quality management: **35**

ISO 14001

Environmental management: **22**

ISO 45001

Occupational health and safety: **25**



FINANCIAL SOUNDNESS AND EFFICIENT RISK MANAGEMENT THROUGHOUT THE PROJECT CYCLE

The sector is comprised of companies with extensive experience in the financial structuring of large-scale infrastructure projects and that have the economic strength and knowledge related to the management of long-term projects and the risks inherent in them.

This enables them to participate in each stage of the projects and respond appropriately in all aspects, even in adverse scenarios and with limited resources.

_8

SECTORAL AXES

The work of companies in the sector, led by the CCU, is aligned with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), in particular the following:

5

**GENDER
EQUALITY**



9

**INDUSTRY,
INNOVATION, AND
INFRASTRUCTURE**



11

**SUSTAINABLE
CITIES AND
COMMUNITIES**



12

**RESPONSIBLE
CONSUMPTION
AND PRODUCTION**



13

**CLIMATE
ACTION**



17

**PARTNERSHIPS
FOR THE GOALS**



Within this framework, there are two fundamental lines of work for the sector's strategic plan:

- 1.** Promoting the adoption of virtual construction as a working methodology.
- 2.** Sustainability. Measuring environmental impact.

_9

PROMOTING THE ADOPTION OF VIRTUAL CONSTRUCTION AS A WORK METHODOLOGY

Since 2016, driven by the private sector and in coordination with the public and academic sector, Uruguay has promoted the adoption of the **Building Information Modeling** (BIM) system as a work methodology, and project management system for architectural and engineering construction projects.

This globally adopted system enables all stakeholders to work on a single digital model of the project in a collaborative and integrated way.

To promote the use of BIM technology, several training and awareness initiatives were held, both nationally and internationally. These included the **Finishing Schools** initiative by Uruguay XXI and other training programs by the National Employment and Vocational Training Institute (Inefop, for its acronym in Spanish), aimed at training professionals and businesses in modeling and design software, languages, and certifications.

In addition, **BIM Forum**, was established as an organization aimed at promoting and accelerating the adoption and implementation of BIM methodology in Uruguay through research, dissemination, and sector-specific training activities in both the public and private sectors, as well as in academic institutions.

A National BIM Committee was also established to ensure the implementation of the National BIM Strategy outlined in 2019.

The Association of Architects of Uruguay (SAU) has set up a **BIM Commission** with the goal of communicating, spreading, and creating spaces for exchange on virtual construction.

In the current analysis of the BIM situation in Uruguay, pilot projects implemented in institutions such as Technological University (UTEC) and government agencies such as the National Institute for Adolescent Social Inclusion (INISA) and the National Institute for Children and Adolescents of Uruguay (INAU) stand out. These projects serve as catalysts for the adoption and adaptation of the methodology in the country.

Various public entities, including the National Administration of Power Plants and Electrical Transmissions (UTE), the National Housing Agency (ANV), and UTEC, as well as private entities such as the National Chamber of Commerce and Services (CND) have already incorporated the requirement for BIM methodology in their calls for tenders, thus generating significant momentum within the sector toward digitalization, particularly among medium-sized construction companies.

Uruguay has positioned itself as a BIM methodology hub driven by private companies that not only adopt this methodology but also offer export services. This push from the private sector has contributed to Uruguay's development and positioning as a leader in BIM implementation in the region.

In terms of standardization, the [Uruguayan Institute of Technical Standards](#) (UNIT) has adopted 14 international standards to date, positioning Uruguay as the second country in the region with the most standards adopted.

The adoption of international standards contribu-

tes to the global alignment of BIM processes and boosts Uruguay's position within the international community.

These milestones have enabled Uruguayan professionals to master the stages of the construction process and the latest available technologies, from virtual construction methodologies to virtual reality.

Uruguay has made significant strides in this methodology in recent years. Below are some key milestones in the BIM agenda:

| MILESTONE | YEAR |
|---|------|
| FIRST NATIONAL BIM MEETING | 2017 |
| BIM INTERNATIONAL SEMINAR | 2017 |
| CREATION OF BIM FORUM URUGUAY | 2017 |
| SECOND NATIONAL BIM MEETING | 2018 |
| INTER-AMERICAN DEVELOPMENT BANK WORKSHOP "TOWARDS THE CREATION OF A NATIONAL BIM STRATEGY" | 2018 |
| FIRST NATIONAL PRODUCTIVE COMPETITIVE TRANSFORMATION PLAN | 2018 |
| PRESENTATION OF THE GENERAL BIM TERMS OF REFERENCE | 2019 |
| THIRD BIM MEETING OF LATIN AMERICAN GOVERNMENTS IN URUGUAY | 2019 |
| CREATION OF THE NATIONAL BIM COMMITTEE | 2019 |
| COORDINATION OF THE NATIONAL BIM STRATEGY WITH THE IDB | 2020 |
| PUBLICATION OF BIM GUIDES IN URUGUAY | 2020 |
| FIFTH NATIONAL BIM MEETING + CONSTRUCTION | 2021 |
| SIXTH ANNUAL INTERNATIONAL MEETING + CONSTRUCTION | 2022 |
| LAUNCH OF THE IDB CONSULTANCY FOR THE NATIONAL BIM STRATEGY | 2023 |
| SEVENTH ANNUAL INTERNATIONAL MEETING + CONSTRUCTION | 2023 |
| LAUNCH OF THE IDB CONSULTANCY FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF A COMMON DATA ENVIRONMENT FOR URUGUAY | 2023 |
| EIGHT ANNUAL INTERNATIONAL MEETING | 2024 |

_10

SUSTAINABILITY AND CERTIFICATIONS

Regarding the sustainability pillar, efforts are focused on measuring environmental impact and improving circular economy practices in the construction sector across the entire ecosystem.

One of the working lines is promoting the incorporation of **carbon emissions measurement** tools in construction companies. This project is driven by the public sector with the support of the private sector and financed by the **Green Climate Fund**.

In line with the country's commitment to environmental care and global sustainability trends, recent years have shown an increasing trend in the number of buildings with LEED certification (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design),

developed by the **United States Green Building Council** (USGBC). This certification defines and

establishes a series of standards and criteria that, when met, implies that the building is constructed based on eco-efficiency standards and complies with sustainability requirements.

Uruguay also shows noteworthy progress related to EDGE certification (Excellence in Design for Greater Efficiencies).

This is an environmental certification system created by the International Finance Corporation —part of the World Bank Group— for emerging markets. This certification requires that projects be designed to reduce their consumption of energy, water, and embodied energy in building materials by 20% compared to a standard building.

Similarly, since 2017, the **Uruguay Green Building Council** (UYGBC), a non-governmental organization, works to promote a sustainable transformation of the national construction industry by encouraging carbon dioxide emissions reduction as well as responsible resource use.

All this highlights the capacity and talent of the country's professionals to develop world-class projects based on substantive advancements in construction technologies, materials selection, energy efficiency, land use, and water treatment.

LEED CERTIFICATIONS IN URUGUAY



ALMA ET BUILDING

PLATINUM CERTIFIED 2024

An avant-garde icon thanks to its innovative design and sustainable techniques. Alma Et is one of the first buildings in Uruguay to obtain **LEED Platinum certification**.

CELEBRA BUILDING

GOLD CERTIFIED 2015

An icon of innovation in the field of green buildings. It is the first **GOLD LEED-certified building** in Uruguay, guaranteeing that its design, construction, and operation meet the highest standards in terms of environmental impact and energy conservation.





GARZÓN WINERY

SILVER CERTIFIED 2019

First winery in the world to obtain LEED certification for all its facilities, including wine production and hospitality services.

BEST NEW WORLD WINERY - WINE ENTHUSIAST MAGAZINE, WINE STAR AWARDS 2018.

OTHER BUILDINGS WITH LEED CERTIFICATIONS:

- SUMMUN - Clínica del Puerto facility
- CITIBANK Uruguay
- BASF Arena WTC IV
- HSBC Punta del Este Costa Carrasco Building Torre Plaza Alemania
- Puerto Buceo Cottage Hotel
- AeroCargas DHL Global Forwarding New Home
- WTC FREE ZONE
- WTC FREE ZONE 2
- Porto Seguro Uruguay - Roche Headquarters
- WTC Torre 4
- UNILEVER URUGUAY DISTRIBUTION CENTER





CARRASCO VALLEY

GOLD CERTIFIED 2023

Corporate hub located in Montevideo, in the residential neighborhood of Carrasco. It holds LEED Gold certification, a guaranteed seal of sustainability regarding materials, construction resources, energy efficiency, and water utilization.



CAF URUGUAY'S OFFICE

SILVER CERTIFIED 2019

The new office of CAF Southern Region - Latin American Development Bank is the result of a National Architecture Competition promoted by the institution and sponsored by the Municipality of Montevideo in 2012, designed by LAPS Arquitectos.



MORE BUCEO BUILDING

SILVER CERTIFIED 2020

More Buceo, is the first residential tower in Montevideo to receive **LEED certification**

EDGE CERTIFICATIONS IN URUGUAY



VIA DISEGNO - DESIGN DISTRICT EDGE CERTIFIED 2024

Total surface (m2): 8,343.4

Total CO2 savings (TCO2/Annual): 16.42

EXPECTED SAVINGS



43%

Energy
saving



46%

Water
Saving



61%

Reduced energy
consumption in
material production

TIENDA INGLESA - PUNTA SHOPPING EDGE CERTIFIED 2025

Total surface (m2): 9,633.19

Total CO2 savings (TCO2/Annual): 38.82

EXPECTED SAVINGS



37%

Energy
saving



36%

Water
Saving



85%

Reduced energy
consumption in
material production



TIENDA INGLESA - CAR ONE

EDGE CERTIFIED 2022

Total surface (m2): 5,048

Total CO2 savings (TCO2/Annual): 61.51



26%

Energy
saving



31%

Water
Saving



45%

Reduced energy
consumption in
material production



MAS CERTIFICATION

In 2022, LSQA launched the first sustainability certification developed specifically for the Uruguayan real estate market.

This certification aims at the development of buildings with ambitious standards of energy efficiency, water saving, indoor well-being, among other attributes. The certification takes into account the efficient design and construction processes in terms of resource use and environmental care.

The Mas Certification follows a methodology based on international standards, adapted to the Uruguayan real estate market, ensuring performance that exceeds regulatory requirements in areas such as:



ENERGY

WATER SAVING

WELL-BEING

SOCIAL INTEGRATION

CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT

INNOVATION

_11

WOOD CONSTRUCTION IN URUGUAY

Uruguay is a major producer and exporter of wood. Every year, 17 million cubic meters are harvested and used in the production of pallets, formwork, furniture, and construction materials.

The Ministry of Housing and Territorial Planning (MVOT), through the [Roadmap for the Construction of Social Housing in Wood in Uruguay](#), set out to resolve regulatory challenges and promote construction with this material. Its goal is to ensure that 20% of the subsidized housing built in Uruguay is made from this material by 2032.

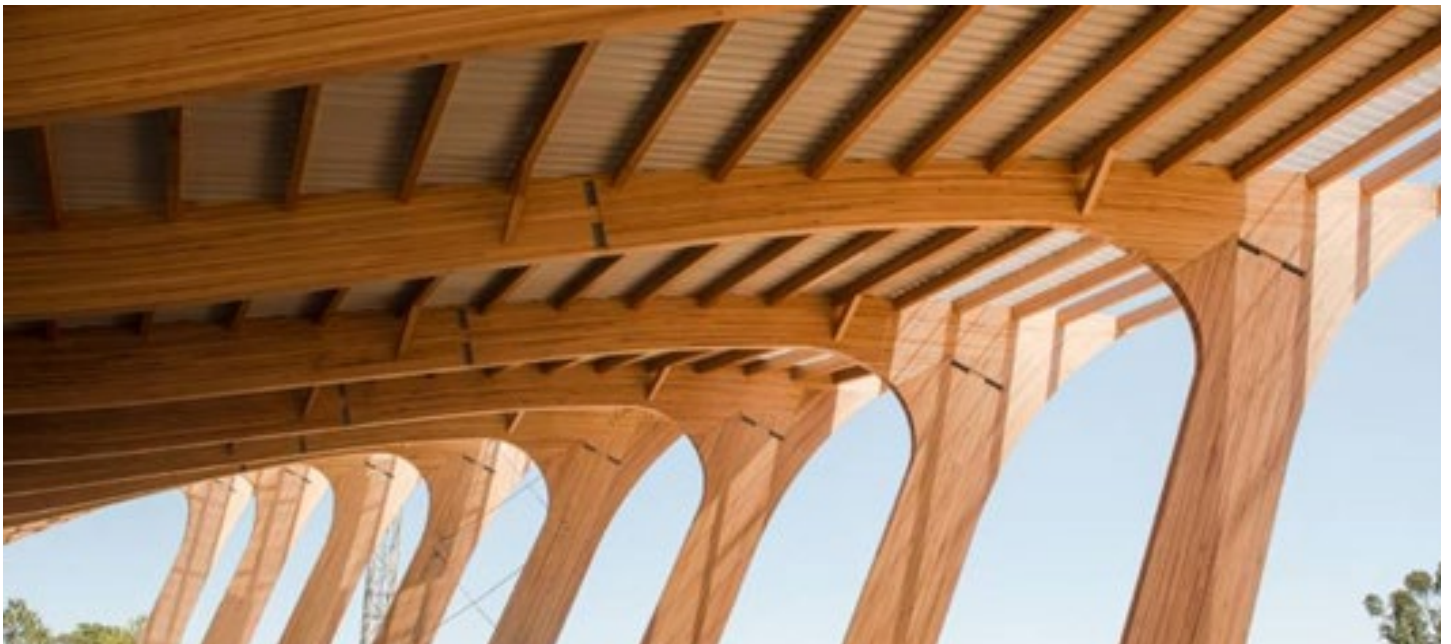
Another development that has boosted the wood construction sector in Uruguay is the establishment of South America's first plant manufacturing cross-laminated timber (CLT), an engineered wood product considered by many to be a sustainable alternative to concrete and steel.

In 2020, the company Arboreal acquired the Frutifor sawmill in the department of Tacuarembó, which it then transformed into the CLT plant. They began producing 570,000 cubic meters per year in 2022.

KEY PROJECTS

MUSEUM OF CONTEMPORARY AMERICAN ART

Designed by renowned Uruguayan architect **Carlos Ott**, MACA consists of two adjoining buildings with an elegant design in pink eucalyptus wood and more than 5,000 square meters of exhibition space. Oak Ingeniería was responsible for the wood engineering and **Atchugarry** was the construction company.



POSADA JOSÉ IGNACIO - GRUPO VIK

It is the first three-story CLT project built in South America. It is based on resource optimization, speed of construction, and commitment to the environment.

Enkel Group, an architecture and construction firm, was the Uruguayan company responsible for carrying out this project, which covers approximately 1,800 square meters, used 504 cubic meters of wood, and captured 580 tons of CO₂.



ARBOLEDA PROJECT

Sustainable office project located in the heart of Montevideo's Carrasco neighborhood. It is the second CLT building, and the first corporate building in Latin America built with wood and LEED certification.

The project is led by the firm **DOVAT** and will have a surface area of 3,700 m².



_12

INVESTMENT AND EXPORT INCENTIVES

GENERAL FRAMEWORK

Uruguay extends tax advantages for both investments and exports. Exports are exempt from Value-Added Tax (VAT), while investments qualify for reduced Corporate Income Tax (IRAE) and Patrimony Tax, as outlined by the Investment Promotion Law 16,906. The country features an appealing free trade zone framework, where companies operating within these zones are exempted from Corporate Income Tax, Patrimony Tax, and any other existing or future taxes.

The country ensures fair treatment for both domestic and foreign investors, allowing for the unrestricted movement of currencies and profits.

For complete information on the Investment Promotion Regime in Uruguay, please consult the [Investor Services Guide](#) prepared by Uruguay XXI.

The [establishment costs' simulator](#), an application developed by Uruguay XXI, provides an approximate reference for the cost of setting up operations in the country.

Through the platform [Live in Uruguay](#) you can access useful information for relocating to Uruguay—whether to live, work, study, or invest.

Uruguay maintains active agreements to prevent dual taxation concerning income and patrimony taxes with 25 countries, notably including key export markets for the sector such as Paraguay and Spain.

As of the date of this report, an agreement signed with Colombia is not yet in force.

More information on the country's current international agreements can be found in the [Uruguay's Trade Agreements Report](#) by Uruguay XXI.

Uruguay XXI also provides specific and updated information regarding the costs of locating an operation in Uruguay. For more information and personalized assistance, please contact us at exportaciones@uruguayxxi.gub.uy

INCENTIVES FOR INVESTMENT IN THE CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY

In addition to the general framework, Uruguay has developed specific investment regimes that promote social housing, large-scale economic projects, and tourism projects

1_ PROMOTED HOUSING REGIME

The regulatory framework promotes private investment in social housing by granting tax exemptions for the construction, renovation, recycling, or expansion of housing in certain pre-established areas of the capital and the interior of the country. The benefits are for both the promoted projects and those who purchase homes to rent.

REGULATORY FRAMEWORK:
[LAW 18,795](#) AND [DECREE 129/020](#)

2_ PROJECTS OF SIGNIFICANT ECONOMIC SCALE

The country offers tax benefits to developers in terms of Corporate Income Tax, Property Tax, VAT, and import taxes. The activities promoted are:

- Construction for sale or lease of office buildings.
- Construction for sale or lease of residential buildings.

- Development of privately initiated urban developments on land classified as rural or suburban.
 - Development of necessary infrastructure and subdivision.
 - Development, subdivision, and construction (total or partial) of homes on this land.

REGULATORY FRAMEWORK: [DECREE 316/020](#), AND [DECREE 138/020](#), UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF THE [INVESTMENT LAW 16,906 OF 1998](#)

3_ TOURISM PROJECTS AND HOTELS

The construction of hotels, serviced apartments, inns, motels, tourist ranches, and condominium hotels is encouraged.

Uruguay grants tax exemptions to the tourism sector, with greater tax benefits for those that form a complex unit that attracts tourism demand.

REGULATORY FRAMEWORK: [DECREE 175/003](#) AND [DECREE 404/010](#)

To obtain more detailed information, please check the [Real Estate Report prepared by Uruguay XXI](#).

_13

SECTORAL EVENTS IN URUGUAY

8° ANNUAL INTERNATIONAL MEETING + CONSTRUCTION

The Chamber of Construction of Uruguay and the National Development Corporation organize this event, with the co-organization of **Uruguay XXI**.

+ Construction has become an event of great relevance for the construction sector and also at the national level.

In 2024, its eighth edition was held with the participation and support of all the public and private organizations that make up the map of key players in the industry in the country.

Throughout its editions, it has brought together high-profile international speakers and has been a meeting point for local and international companies.

7TH SYSO NATIONAL CONGRESS ON CONSTRUCTION

Since 2017, the Chamber of Construction of Uruguay has held this event every year with the support of various institutions and companies working in the field of occupational health and safety. It is usually held around the time of the World Day for Safety and Health at Work. The **seventh edition** took place in 2024.

URUGUAY CONSTRUCTION FAIR

Every year, starting on the third Monday in October, this exhibition takes place as part of Construction Week in Uruguay.

The event is held on a 56,000-square-meter site and is considered the main gathering in the sector in terms of attendance. An estimated 300 exhibitors and 50,000 visitors are expected for the **13th edition** in 2025.



_14

CASES OF EXPORTS BY CONSTRUCTION COMPANIES IN URUGUAY

Uruguayan construction companies have presence in several countries, including Argentina, Paraguay, Peru, Bolivia, Chile, and Colombia.

GRUPO SACEEM



Grupo Saceem is an Uruguayan company with a strong reputation in the fields of engineering and construction. It has operations in Peru, Paraguay, and Uruguay.

PERÚ - OYÓN ROAD

Ambo Grinor, as part of the Ambo Road Consortium, was in charge of building 50 km -Section I- of the Oyón-Ambo concrete highway. This involved working at an altitude of between 3,500 and 4,600 meters.



PARAGUAY - ET VALENZUELA 500/220/66/22 KV

The project involved the construction of a new 500 kV transformer substation, which is the most important energy infrastructure in Paraguay. The tasks were awarded to the San José Consortium (Saceem, Ingener, and Concret Mix) for the construction of the ET and the sectioning of 500 kV and 220 kV power transmission lines.



INGENER **Ingener**

Ingener is a company specializing in engineering, construction, commissioning, operation, and maintenance services for the energy, industry, and services sectors.

With operations in Uruguay, Argentina, Bolivia, and Paraguay, the company has participated in more than 1,400 MW of power generation projects, mainly in the wind, solar photovoltaic, and thermal power plant sectors, and more than 30 high- and

extra-high-voltage substations, in which it executes EPC (Engineering, Procurement, and Construction) contracts, handling electrical interconnection works to the grid, electromechanical infrastructure, civil works, assembly, commissioning, and O&M services to ensure the availability of the facilities during commercial operation.

ARGENTINA - ET PE VIENTOS DE OLAVARRÍA

Engineering and construction of a new 132 kV transformer station in the district of Olavarría, province of Buenos Aires, including the opening of the 132 kV high-voltage line Bolívar-Olavarría, the double-circuit connection to the pylons of the new station, and all the necessary work on the interconnected system for its correct integration and operation.



BOLIVIA - TRANSMISSION STATIONS

At 230 kV: Warnes, Los Troncos, and San Ignacio de Velasco.

Executive engineering, equipment supply, civil works, electromechanical assembly, testing, and commissioning in the construction of the Los Troncos Transmission Station and the expansion of the San Ignacio de Velasco and Warnes transmission stations.

II. In these cases, Ingener works for ENDE, the Bolivian state-owned energy company.



VENTUS

VENTUS
NOS IMPORTA EL FUTURO

Ventus is an engineering and construction company specializing in renewable energy and infrastructure projects, with operations in Uruguay, Argentina, Chile, and Colombia. Since 2010, it has been a leader in the construction of turnkey solar and wind farms for industrial and large-scale self-consumption projects.

Some notable projects include:

CHILE - CAMPOS DEL SOL SOLAR PARK 101 MWP: OPERATING SINCE 2022



COLOMBIA - DULIMA SOLAR PARK 28 MWP: OPERATING SINCE 2023



CSI



CSI is an international engineering and architecture firm that designs, leads, and delivers innovative solutions across the infrastructure, industrial, and land development sectors.

It has a team of more than 400 professionals working on more than 4,000 projects in 35 countries, with offices in the United States, Paraguay, Chile, Argentina, and its headquarters in Uruguay.

CENTRAL AMERICA

Detailed design and engineering, and phased construction for a new prison facility of 120,000-square-foot on a seven-acre property. Phased construction to ensure uninterrupted prison operations. BIM quantity takeoff, LOD 350, clash detection.





Berkes is an Uruguayan company with more than 80 years of experience, which operates in key sectors such as health, education, energy, and transportation, executing civil, mechanical, and electrical projects not only in Uruguay but also abroad.

The company is advancing in the construction of power plants in EPC format and the supply and assembly of power boilers in Argentina, Colombia, French Guiana, and Romania, as well as liquid storage tank farms in Brazil.

With presence in Montevideo, Copenhagen, and Madrid, it works in coordination to promote the brand and its engineering.

Its greatest strength and distinguishing feature is that it is an interdisciplinary company, capable of providing global solutions.

COLOMBIA - REFOENERGY PUERTO CARREÑO (2021).

4.5 MW biomass power plant.

Fuel: wood chips.



COLOMBIA - REFOCOSTA VILLANUEVA (2024)

25 MW EPC power plant.

Fuel: wood chips.



_15

URUGUAY: A SMART CHOICE

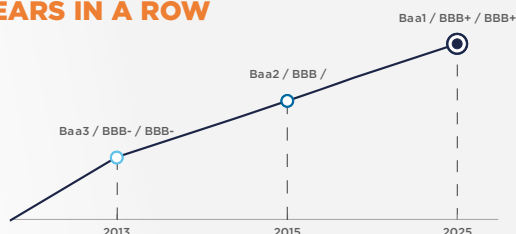
Uruguay is the highest-ranked emerging country in ESG (Environmental, Social, and Governance) factors, according to the J-ESG index developed by JP Morgan.

RELIABLE AND SAFE FOR DOING BUSINESS

Located in an economically attractive region, Uruguay is one of the most reliable countries for doing business. It is a full democracy with effective separation of powers, offering political, economic, and social stability. It also provides a predictable and attractive business environment, backed by more than a decade of uninterrupted investment grade ratings, recognized by the leading credit rating agencies. Uruguay has multiple international agreements and is part of the main forums and mechanisms for dispute resolution.

- 
Rule of Law
(World Justice Project, 2023) **#1**
- 
Democracy Index
(Economist Intelligence Unit, 2023) **#1**
- 
Low corruption
(Transparency International, 2023) **#1**

INVESTMENT-GRADE RATING FOR 13 YEARS IN A ROW



MOODY'S STANDARD & POOR'S FitchRatings

SOPHISTICATED ECONOMY

Uruguay offers highly complex goods and services to diversified markets. While supplying the world with safe and nutritious food, Uruguay also positions itself as a net exporter of global services—most notably in information technology, tourism, architecture and engineering, construction, audio-visual production, and corporate services.

With long-standing ties to the most demanding markets, Uruguay supplies goods and services to world-class companies located in over 160 countries. Similarly, a wide variety of global companies choose the country as a base for their headquarters, from which they support their teams in Latin America, the United States, and the rest of the world.

Investors highlight the country's world-class infrastructure and excellent quality of life for their executives and families.

More information: [Live in Uruguay](#)

 Adoption of ICTs **#1**
(World Economic Forum)

_16

URUGUAY AT A GLANCE (2024)

| | |
|---------------------------------|--|
| OFFICIAL NAME | Oriental Republic of Uruguay |
| GEOGRAPHICAL LOCATION | South America, located between Argentina and Brazil |
| CAPITAL | Montevideo |
| SURFACE AREA | 176,215 km ² - 95% of territory is productive land suitable for agriculture farming |
| POPULATION 2024 | 3,44 million |
| POPULATION GROWTH 2024 | 0,5 (annual) |
| GDP PER CAPITA 2024 | USD 23,590 |
| CURRENCY | Uruguayan Peso (\$) |
| LITERACY RATE | 0,98 |
| LIFE EXPECTANCY AT BIRTH | 77 years of age |
| FORM OF GOVERNMENT | Democratic republic with presidential system |
| ADMINISTRATIVE DIVISIONS | 19 departments |
| TIME ZONE | GMT - 03:00 |
| OFFICIAL LANGUAGE | Spanish |

WORKING CONDITIONS

Uruguay offers exceptional labor conditions in the region, consistently leading in formal employment levels throughout Latin America. The goods and services it provides incorporate ethical practices into their processes, ensuring fair working conditions and access to opportunities.

Better Jobs Index: Employment Quality and Employment Quantity (IDB, country data, 2022)



#1 IN THE FORMALITY DIMENSION OF THE BETTER JOBS INDEX IN LATIN AMERICA

ENVIRONMENTAL CARE

Uruguay's wealth, rooted in its abundant natural resources, showcases its commitment to environmental care. Global consumers highly value the superior quality of the country's natural assets, which are uniquely combined with innovation, talent, and thoughtful design within secure production methodologies.

For a long time, economic expansion has coincided with a rise in greenhouse gas emissions in many countries

. However, Uruguay succeeded in decoupling its emissions from economic growth. In addition to conventional hydropower, it did so largely by integrating power from non-traditional sources such as wind, solar, and biomass. Due to this effort, approximately 98% of the country's energy consumption is estimated to originate from renewable sources.

90% OF THE LAND AREA

is suitable for agricultural use

98% OF THE COUNTRY'S ENERGY GENERATION

comes from renewable sources

_17

KEY ECONOMIC INDICATORS

| Indicators | 2020 | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 | 2024 |
|--|--------|--------|--------|--------|---------------|
| GDP (Annual Var %) | -7.38% | 5.56% | 4.71% | 0.37% | 3.40% |
| GDP (US\$ Millions) | 53,615 | 60,728 | 70,236 | 77,131 | 81,151 |
| Population (Millions of people) | 3,44 | 3,44 | 3,44 | 3,44 | 3,44 |
| GDP per Capita (US\$) | 15,593 | 17,648 | 20,395 | 22,422 | 23,590 |
| Unemployment rate - Annual Average (% Workforce) | 10.40% | 9.30% | 7.90% | 8.30% | 8.20% |
| Exchange rate (Pesos per US\$ Annual Average) | 42.1 | 43.6 | 41.1 | 38.8 | 40.2 |
| Exchange rate (Average Annual Variation) | 19.20% | 3.60% | -5.60% | -5.60% | 3.60% |
| Consumer Prices (Cumulative annual % variation) | 9.40% | 8.00% | 8.30% | 5.10% | 5.50% |
| Exports of goods and services (US\$ millions)** | 14,028 | 19,973 | 23,611 | 26,474 | 29,512 |
| Imports of goods and services (US\$ Millions)** | 11,598 | 15,448 | 19,406 | 19,306 | 18,668 |
| Trade Surplus / Deficit (US\$ Millions) | 2,430 | 4,526 | 4,205 | 7,169 | 10,843 |
| Trade Surplus / Deficit (% of GDP)** | 4.50% | 7.50% | 6.00% | 9.30% | 13.40% |
| Overall Fiscal Result (% of GDP) | -5.80% | -4.10% | -3.40% | -3.60% | - |
| Gross Capital Formation (% of GDP) | 16.40% | 18.30% | 18.90% | 17.30% | - |

Data projected in orange.

Sources: Data regarding gross domestic product (GDP), foreign trade, foreign direct investment (FDI), exchange rate, international reserves, and external debt are provided by the Central Bank of Uruguay (BCU, for its acronym in Spanish). Population growth rates, literacy, unemployment, and inflation rates are obtained from the National Institute of Statistics (INE, for its acronym in Spanish). Estimated data for 2021 based on BCU economic expectations and inflation surveys and Exante projections. Fiscal result data are from the Ministry of Economy and Finance. Since 2018 the figures are adjusted for the effect of Law N°19,590 (fifty-year-olds). In 2017 the Central Bank of Uruguay adopted the methodology of the 6th balance of payments manual. The data, which follows this new methodology, covers merchandise sales and re-exports and has been available since 2012. In 2017 the Central Bank of Uruguay adopted the methodology of the 6th balance of payments manual. Data are net flows so they may show negative values.

_18

ANNEXES - SECTORAL ECONOMIC INSTITUTIONS

BUSINESS ASSOCIATIONS

CHAMBER OF CONSTRUCTION

With more than 100 years of experience, the Chamber of Construction works in cooperation with public authorities in the consideration, study, drafting, and application of laws, decrees, resolutions, and ordinances related to the industry. It actively promotes development that is continuous, sustainable, and equitable, prioritizing environmental care, human development, and the continuous education of its sector's workforce and their families.

ccu.com.uy

ASSOCIATION OF PRIVATE CONSTRUCTION DEVELOPERS

This is a non-profit institution made up of real estate developers in all areas, university professionals, public and private institutions, and companies linked to the sector.

appcu.org

CONSTRUCTION LEAGUE

This association brings together companies that carry out industrial or commercial activities related to the construction industry in all its related branches throughout the country. Its main objective is the development, improvement, and productivity of the construction industry and related branches.

ligaconstruccion.org

EASTERN CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY COORDINATOR

It brings together construction companies, subcontractors, suppliers, and providers of construction materials, with the aim of promoting the industry and laying the foundations for its sustainable and permanent development in the department of Maldonado.

cice.org.uy

PRIVATE AND PROFESSIONAL INSTITUTIONS

CHAMBER OF ARCHITECTURE AND ENGINEERING SERVICES OF URUGUAY

This is a civil association that seeks to promote and develop companies providing architecture and engineering services, with a primary focus on their international expansion. It also contributes to Uruguay's strategic positioning in the international market as a global service provider.

cusai.org.uy

ASSOCIATION OF ARCHITECTS OF URUGUAY (SAU)

This is a professional association with over 100 years of history. Its main objective is to consolidate the role of architects, promoting best professional practices and creating opportunities for action in society. The SAU is a member of leading global architecture organizations such as the International Union of Architects (UIA) and the Pan-American Federation of Architects Associations (FPAA).

sau.org.uy

ASSOCIATION OF ENGINEERS OF URUGUAY (AIU)

This is a civil association with more than 100 years of experience, established to promote the continuous improvement of engineers in material, moral, and intellectual terms.

aiu.org.uy

URUGUAYAN ROADS ASSOCIATION

A civil association that brings together all stakeholders in society involved in the road infrastructure sector, providing a defined space to present, discuss, and develop issues of common interest.

auc.com.uy

_18

ANNEXES - SECTORAL ECONOMIC INSTITUTIONS

PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS

URUGUAY XXI

The agency responsible for promoting the country's exports and investments. It fosters the internationalization and competitiveness of architecture and engineering services and supports the development of BIM technological capabilities in companies through its Finishing Schools program.

uruguayxxi.gub.uy

NATIONAL HOUSING AGENCY

A decentralized public agency whose purpose is to promote and facilitate access to and retention of housing. It also contributes to the design and implementation of public housing policies, taking into account economic, social, and environmental factors.

anv.gub.uy

MINISTRY OF HOUSING AND TERRITORIAL PLANNING

Responsible for designing and implementing participatory and integrated public policies on housing, the environment, land use, and water, with the aim of promoting equity and sustainable development while improving the quality of life of the country's inhabitants.

gub.uy/ministerio-vivienda-ordenamiento-territorial

MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT AND PUBLIC WORKS

Responsible for designing, implementing, and overseeing the National Transportation Policy in all its forms, working in coordination with public companies, departmental governments, and other public and private organizations.

gub.uy/ministerio-transporte-obras-publicas

MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT

It was created in July 2020 as a State Secretariat with exclusive authority over environmental matters. It is responsible for the implementation of national environmental policies, environmental planning, sustainable development, and the conservation and use of natural resources.

gub.uy/ministerio-ambiente

MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY, ENERGY AND MINING

Responsible for designing and implementing government policies related to the industrial, energy, mining, and telecommunications sectors, as well as audiovisual and postal communication services, industrial property, and micro, small, and medium-sized enterprises.

opp.gub.uy

OFFICE OF PLANNING AND BUDGET

Advises the Executive Branch on the formulation of national and departmental plans, programs, and policies, as well as on defining the government's economic and social strategy.

opp.gub.uy

COUNCIL OF DEPARTMENTAL GOVERNORS

Responsible for coordinating the policies of departmental governments and entering into agreements with the Executive Branch, autonomous agencies, and decentralized services, as well as organizing and providing services and activities of shared or specific interest.

_20

ANNEXES - SECTORAL ECONOMIC INSTITUTIONS

EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS

UNIVERSITY OF THE REPUBLIC

It is the country's main public university, offering the broadest range of undergraduate and graduate programs. It provides a wide variety of undergraduate and graduate programs in Architecture and Engineering.

udelar.edu.uy

ORT UNIVERSITY

One of the country's leading private universities, currently offering programs in Architecture, Interior Design, and Electrical Engineering. Furthermore, it features advanced degrees in Timber Buildings and a Specialization in Sustainable Architecture.

ort.edu.uy

UNIVERSITY OF MONTEVIDEO

The only private university offering degree programs in Civil Engineering and Industrial Engineering.

um.edu.uy

CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY OF URUGUAY

A private university offering programs in Engineering and Architecture, with three campuses located in different regions of the country.

ucu.edu.uy

TECHNOLOGICAL UNIVERSITY OF URUGUAY

Offers a public, technology-focused educational model that expands tertiary university education in Uruguay's interior regions. It promotes strong links with the productive sector and supports the country's social and cultural development. It offers degrees in Renewable Energy Engineering, Logistics, and Mechatronics.

utec.edu.uy

URUGUAYAN TECHNICAL UNIVERSITY

A public institution responsible for secondary and tertiary non-university technical and technological education. It offers tertiary-level training in Electrotechnical Engineering.

utu.edu.uy

_20

ANNEXES - SECTORAL ECONOMIC INSTITUTIONS

PUBLIC-PRIVATE ORGANIZATIONS SOCIAL FUNDS

NATIONAL BIM COMMITTEE

Leads the national BIM adoption process, particularly focusing on its implementation in public projects. The committee is composed of leading representatives from Uruguay's public and private sectors and is coordinated by the Secretariat for Productive Transformation and Competitiveness (STPC), the Ministry of Transport and Public Works, the Ministry of Economy and Finance, and the National Development Corporation.

BIM FORUM URUGUAY

An organization whose goal is to promote and accelerate the adoption and implementation of the BIM methodology in Uruguay. It does so through research, dissemination, and training activities across the construction industry, as well as the public, private, and academic sectors.

bimforum.org

FONDOS SOCIALES

SOCIAL CONSTRUCTION FUND

Provides support to workers in the construction industry and their families by offering benefits that address various social needs, contributing to their overall well-being.

fsc.org.uy

SEVERANCE AND RETIREMENT FUND

Based on individual accounts created for each construction worker, funded through employer and employee contributions.

focer.org.uy

CONSTRUCTION TRAINING FUND

Formed by different stakeholders in the construction industry to promote professional training related to the sector.

focap.org.uy

CONSTRUCTION WORKERS' HOUSING SOCIAL FUND

Provides assistance to workers in the construction industry for purchasing new or existing homes, building new housing, or renovating their current homes.

fosvoc.org