

# Macro scenario - Uruguay



December 18, 2025

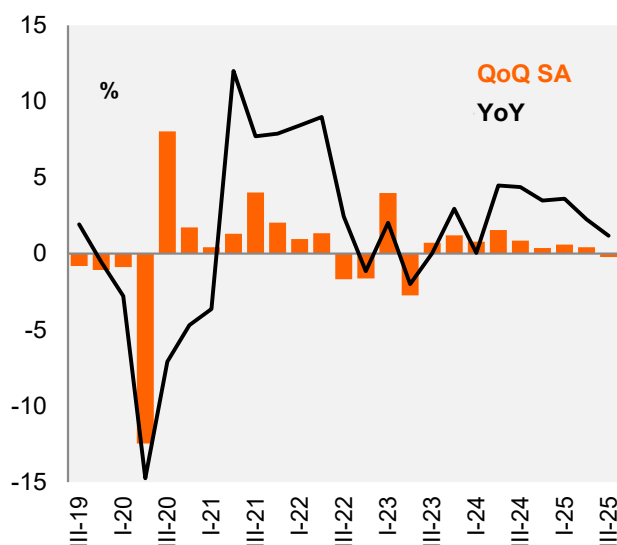
## Softer activity at the margin

- ▶ We lowered our GDP forecast for YE25 to 2.0%, down from 2.3% in the previous scenario due to weaker figures at the margin. However, we maintained our forecast for YE26 at 1.8%, given our positive outlook for the tourism season in 1Q26.
- ▶ We revised our exchange rate forecast to UYU/USD 39.5 by YE25, from 40.5 in our previous scenario amid a benign external scenario and global dollar weakness. For 2026 and 2027 we expect the UYU to remain stable in real terms.
- ▶ Our 2025 inflation forecast remains at 3.9% and 4.5% for the next year. We expect the BCU to cut the policy rate by another 25-bps in December's meeting to 7.75%. For YE26 policy rate we foresee the policy rate at 7.25%, assuming inflation expectations remain around the BCU's target.

## Activity contracted sequentially in 3Q25

**GDP rose by 1.2% yoy in 3Q25, down from 2.3% in 2Q25.** At the margin, GDP fell by 0.2% qoq/sa in 3Q25, after eight consecutive quarters of sequential expansion. Furthermore, the BCU adjusted past data, especially in 1Q25, with GDP rising sequentially 0.60% qoq/sa, slightly below the previous estimate (0.68%). Thus, the statistical carryover for 2025 stands at 1.9%. In parallel, other leading indicators also point to soft activity at the margin. The CERES Leading Index was slightly positive (0.1% mom/sa) in November after two neutral rates, confirming the slowdown throughout the year. Separately, our activity indicator (IDAT-UY) fell 0.4% mom/sa, in November, with goods rising 0.1% mom/sa and services falling 0.2% mom/sa. The IDAT-UY was flat on sequential basis in the quarter ended in November. See our report for more details [here](#).

GDP Growth



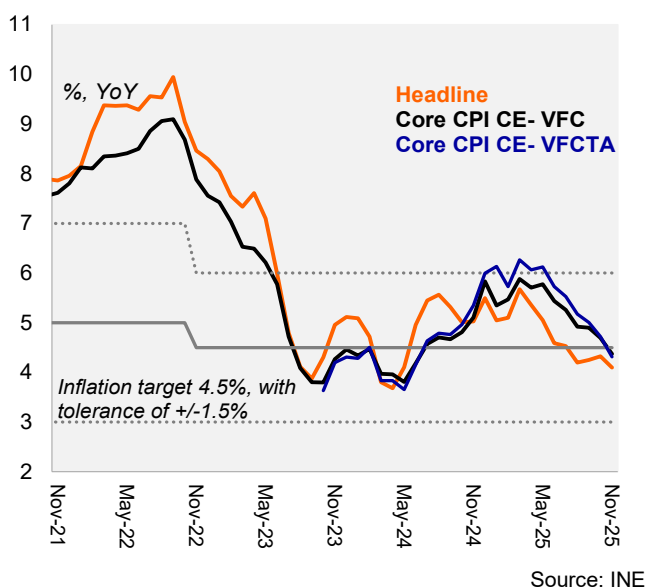
Source: BCU

## Lower-than-expected inflation in November

**Inflation rose by 0.14% MoM in November**, below our forecast and market expectations according to the BCU's survey (both at 0.30% MoM). The main monthly impact in November came from transport (0.65% MoM, incidence of 0.07 p.p.) given higher taxi and riding app (among other) tariffs and greater airfare prices. Restaurant and hotel prices rose by 0.46%

MoM, while food and non-alcoholic beverages prices fell by 0.23% MoM due to vegetable prices (-5.62% MoM). All CPI readings remain within the inflation target's tolerance range of  $4.5\% \pm 1.5\%$ . Headline inflation fell to 4.09% YoY in November from 4.32% in October, while the core reading decreased to 4.38% from 4.69% in the previous month. Cumulative headline inflation in the year reaches 3.74%.

Annual Inflation



### The focus is on inflation

In the last monetary policy meeting held in November the central bank's Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) unanimously cut the policy rate by 25-bps to 8.00%, reducing the pace from the previous meeting (-50 bps). The central bank's statement reiterated that monetary policy is gaining credibility amid historically low inflation expectations. Average inflation expectations for the monetary policy horizon (24 months) stood at 4.98% (4.95% in the previous meeting), towards the upper half of the inflation target's tolerance range for the

sixth consecutive month. We estimate the ex-ante real policy rate at 2.87%, somewhat above the BCU's neutral real rate estimate of 2.5%.

### The economy shows signs of deceleration

**We revised our 2025 GDP growth forecast down to 2.0% (from 2.3% in our previous scenario), reflecting revised weaker data and leading indicators.** For 2026, we continue to expect 1.8% growth, supported by private consumption and spillovers from Argentina's macroeconomic adjustment.

**Our inflation outlook remains unchanged, with year-end 2025 inflation forecasted at 3.9% and 4.5% by year-end 2026, consistent with the BCU's target and supported by a strong UYU.** The seasonal discount on electricity coupled with stronger UYU introduces downside risks to our call.

**Our scenario considers the BCU delivering a 25-bps cut at its next meeting on December 23, bringing it to 7.75%.** Our forecast for year-end 2026 remains at 7.25%, assuming inflation expectations continue to converge toward the target.

**Finally, we revised our exchange rate forecast to UYU/USD 39.5 by year-end 2025 (from 40.5 previously), amid a favorable external environment and global dollar weakness.** For 2026 we see the UYU stable in real terms.

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## Uruguay | Forecasts and Data

|  | 2021   | 2022   | 2023   | 2024   | 2025F         |          | 2026F         |          | 2027F         |
|--|--------|--------|--------|--------|---------------|----------|---------------|----------|---------------|
|  |        |        |        |        | Current       | Previous | Current       | Previous | Current       |
| <b>Economic Activity</b>                 |        |        |        |        |               |          |               |          |               |
| Real GDP growth - %                      | 5.6    | 4.8    | 0.7    | 3.1    | <b>2.0</b>    | 2.3      | <b>1.8</b>    | 1.8      | <b>2.0</b>    |
| Nominal GDP - USD bn                     | 60.7   | 70.7   | 78.0   | 81.3   | <b>85.4</b>   | 85.2     | <b>93.5</b>   | 91.2     | <b>98.9</b>   |
| Population (millions)                    | 3.5    | 3.5    | 3.5    | 3.5    | <b>3.5</b>    | 3.5      | <b>3.5</b>    | 3.5      | <b>3.5</b>    |
| Per Capita GDP - USD                     | 17,424 | 20,253 | 22,282 | 23,174 | <b>24,304</b> | 24,227   | <b>26,520</b> | 25,888   | <b>28,069</b> |
| Unemployment Rate - year avg             | 9.3    | 7.9    | 8.3    | 8.2    | <b>7.8</b>    | 7.8      | <b>7.6</b>    | 7.6      | <b>7.6</b>    |
| <b>Inflation</b>                         |        |        |        |        |               |          |               |          |               |
| CPI - %                                  | 8.0    | 8.3    | 5.1    | 5.5    | <b>3.9</b>    | 3.9      | <b>4.5</b>    | 4.5      | <b>4.5</b>    |
| <b>Interest Rate</b>                     |        |        |        |        |               |          |               |          |               |
| Reference rate - eop - %                 | 5.75   | 11.50  | 9.00   | 8.75   | <b>7.75</b>   | 7.75     | <b>7.25</b>   | 7.25     | <b>7.25</b>   |
| <b>Balance of Payments</b>               |        |        |        |        |               |          |               |          |               |
| UYU / USD - eop                          | 44.69  | 39.9   | 38.9   | 44.1   | <b>39.5</b>   | 40.5     | <b>40.0</b>   | 41.0     | <b>40.5</b>   |
| Trade Balance - USD bn                   | 0.0    | -0.8   | -2.5   | -1.4   | <b>-1.0</b>   | -1.0     | <b>-1.0</b>   | -1.0     | <b>-1.0</b>   |
| Current Account - % GDP                  | -2.4   | -3.7   | -3.4   | -1.0   | <b>-0.2</b>   | -0.2     | <b>-0.2</b>   | -0.2     | <b>-0.2</b>   |
| Foreign Direct Investment - % GDP        | 2.4    | 4.5    | 5.5    | 2.0    | <b>1.5</b>    | 1.5      | <b>1.5</b>    | 1.5      | <b>1.5</b>    |
| International Reserves - USD bn          | 17.0   | 15.1   | 16.2   | 17.4   | <b>19.5</b>   | 19.5     | <b>19.5</b>   | 19.5     | <b>19.5</b>   |
| <b>Public Finances</b>                   |        |        |        |        |               |          |               |          |               |
| Nominal Balance Central Gov. (*) - % GDP | -4.2   | -3.0   | -3.3   | -3.4   | <b>-4.1</b>   | -4.1     | <b>-4.0</b>   | -4.0     | <b>-3.5</b>   |
| Gross Public Debt Central Gov. - % GDP   | 58.5   | 58.2   | 58.5   | 57.2   | <b>61.5</b>   | 61.5     | <b>61.4</b>   | 61.4     | <b>60.7</b>   |

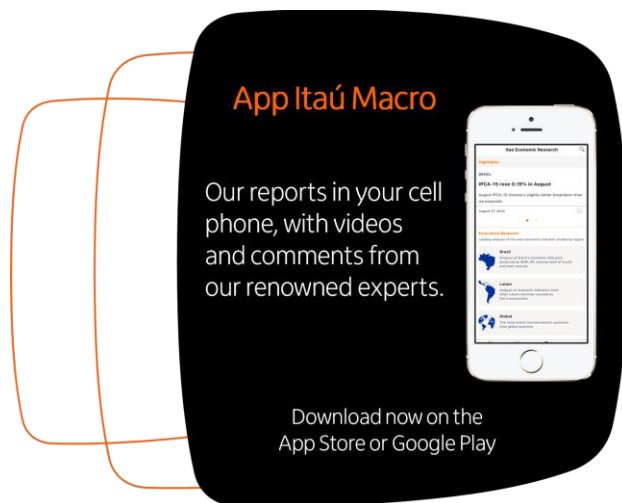
Source: FMI, Haver, Bloomberg, BCU, Itaú.

(\*) Excludes extraordinary inflows to the Social Security Trust Fund.

## Macro Research – Itaú

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