UNIVERSIDAD ORT
Uruguay



# 2025 Sustainability Report

Our contribution to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals through teaching, research, campus operations and partnerships.

Cover: graduation ceremony 2025. Photographs: Anuario 2025, Universidad ORT Uruguay.

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**Reading this report.** Each of the 17 SDG chapters is self-contained: it presents ORT's 2025 progress on that goal across teaching, research, campus operations and community partnerships, and is also published as a stand-alone SDG report. Reporting period: 1 January–31 December 2025.


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FOREWORD

# Message from the Rector

I am pleased to share some of the activities carried out during 2025. I trust that this selection conveys a representative picture of the diversity of our academic life.

For the sixth consecutive year, Universidad ORT Uruguay was recognized among the best universities in Latin America and the Caribbean by Times Higher Education (THE). It was also the only Uruguayan institution in the Quacquarelli Symonds (QS) Business Master's Rankings 2026, and it once again featured in the THE Impact Rankings 2025, which highlight universities' commitment to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

The Master in Business Administration (MBA) is once again among the best in Latin America according to the QS Executive MBA Ranking, for the fifth consecutive year, and three postgraduate programmes of the School of Management and Social Sciences are included in the QS Business Master's Rankings 2026. The School of Architecture was the only Uruguayan university included in the 2025 edition of Buildner's ranking of the world's most competitive architecture universities.

In October, ORT created the Institute of Dermatology and launched the Postgraduate Specialization in Medical-Surgical Dermatology, incorporating Health Sciences as a new academic area. In November, the National Development Agency (ANDE) recognized our Center for Innovation and Entrepreneurship (CIE) as the sponsoring institution with the largest number of approved projects over the last ten years. Since November, the university also has a new Business School building, with modern classrooms, state-of-the-art technology and spaces designed for collaborative learning.

During 2025, 2,025 professionals graduated from our university. A total of 54 of our academics were categorized as active researchers by the National Researchers System. This year, 128 international students took courses at our university and another 50 participated through the University Studies Abroad Consortium programmes, while 153 of our students completed semesters at universities in 13 countries.

We have much to be proud of as a country, but there is much still to do. In the era of artificial intelligence, human beings will have to retrain and adapt constantly. The ability to learn will become one of humanity's essential skills, and our education system must transform itself to cultivate it in every student. The great challenge will be to ensure that the speed of our relearning is always greater than the speed of technological change.

**Dr. Jorge Grünberg**
Rector, Universidad ORT Uruguay



Undergraduate graduation ceremony, Sodre National Auditorium Dra. Adela Reta, 1 April 2025.

> *"The great challenge will be to ensure that the speed of our relearning is always greater than the speed of technological change."*

WHO WE ARE

# Universidad ORT Uruguay at a glance



ORT began its activities in Uruguay in 1942 as a technical school and was recognized as a university by the Ministry of Education and Culture in 1996. It is a member of World ORT, an international education network founded in 1880.

**16,000+**
students each year in six schools and two institutes

**90+**
postgraduate, university and technical degrees

**1,800+**
faculty and researchers

**25,000+**
graduates working in Uruguay and abroad

**230+**
partner universities and organizations in 38 countries

**97%**
average employment rate of university graduates over the last three years

### Six schools, two institutes

Engineering; Communication; Design; Management and Social Sciences; Architecture; the Institute of Education; and, since October 2025, the Institute of Dermatology, which opens a new area in Health Sciences. The Center for Innovation and Entrepreneurship (CIE) connects all areas of knowledge.

### Recognition in 2025

Included in the THE Impact Rankings 2025 (overall score 66.7/100, band 601–800 of 2,318 institutions). Band 126–150 in the THE Latin America University Rankings 2026 (up from 151+). Three postgraduate programmes in the QS Business Master's Rankings 2026.

### Quality assurance

Joint AMBA (Association of MBAs) and BGA (Business Graduates Association) accreditation of the School of Management and Social Sciences until 2030; ARCU-SUR accreditation, the MERCOSUR regional system, for Electronic and Telecommunications Engineering.

GOVERNANCE

# Our approach to sustainability



Sustainability at ORT is embedded in what the university does best: educating professionals, producing applied knowledge and connecting the academic world with the productive sector and society.

Our contribution to the 2030 Agenda is organized around four levers that structure every chapter of this report: **teaching and learning**, **research and innovation**, **campus operations** and **community partnerships**.

Operational practices include ORT Recicla, the university's waste management programme since 2017; environmental criteria for suppliers and subcontracted services; reduced paper use; and awareness campaigns on carbon footprint and responsible consumption.

The School of Management and Social Sciences is a signatory of the Principles for Responsible Management Education (PRME), and this report is prepared with the support of its Chair of Corporate Sustainability (Cátedra de Sostenibilidad Empresarial).

### Reporting to the world

ORT has participated in the THE Impact Rankings since 2021. This report publishes progress on each of the 17 SDGs individually, so that every goal has its own public account of results.

## A Sustainability Committee for the whole university

In September 2025 ORT created a specialized Sustainability Committee to consolidate existing initiatives and take them further. Its mandate is to guide and co-ordinate sustainability initiatives across schools and institutes, monitor progress and communicate results; to integrate sustainability into undergraduate and postgraduate curricula, research, outreach and campus management; to foster interdisciplinary collaboration; and to promote community engagement activities such as a Sustainability Week.

**Dr. Pablo Landoni** · Academic Vice-Rector

**Marcela Mailhos, MBA** · Director of Admissions and Institutional Communication

**Inés Tiscornia, MSc** · Faculty of Engineering, Environmental Management

**Dr. Nicolás Gambetta** · School of Management and Social Sciences

**Sabrina Bianchi** · School of Communication

**María Fernanda Núñez** · School of Design

**Arch. Eliseo Cabrera** · School of Architecture

**Dr. Andrea Tejera** · Institute of Education

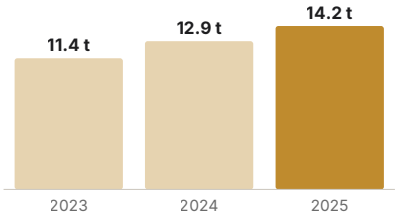
Source: ORT news, 15 September 2025 (ort.edu.uy/novedades/comite-de-sostenibilidad).

KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

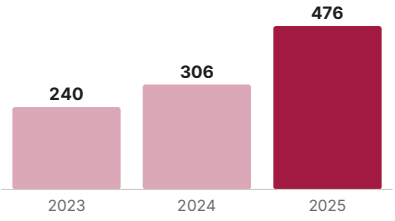
# 2025 in numbers

| INDICATOR | 2024 | 2025 | CHANGE | SDGS |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Graduates (all levels) | 1,626 | **2,025** | +24.5% | 4 8 |
| New students (all levels) | 3,756 | **3,438** | −8.5% | 4 |
| New undergraduates from public high schools | 27.9% | **31.9%** | +4.0 pp | 4 10 |
| New undergraduates from outside Montevideo | 25.6% | **28.4%** | +2.8 pp | 10 |
| Women among new undergraduates | 44.1% | **42.5%** | −1.6 pp | 5 |
| Women among new engineering undergraduates | 25.9% | **27.2%** | +1.3 pp | 5 9 |
| Researchers in the National Researchers System (SNI) | 52 | **54** | +2 | 9 |
| Academic publications (all types) | 188 | **187** | −1 | 9 17 |
| Research projects started or approved | 12 | **24** | ×2 | 9 17 |
| International academic agreements signed | 22 | **18** | −4 | 17 |
| Incoming international students (+ USAC) | 114 + 61 | **128 + 50** | +3 | 4 17 |
| ORT students on exchange abroad | 154 | **153** | −1 | 4 17 |
| Library collection (volumes) | 88,782 | **90,065** | +1.4% | 4 |
| Business ideas submitted to the CIE | 306 | **476** | +55.6% | 8 9 |
| Incubated ventures receiving public funding | 16 | **25** | +56% | 8 9 |
| New companies constituted with CIE support | 11 | **18** | +64% | 8 |
| Campus waste generated (tonnes) | 75.4 | **77.6** | +2.9% | 12 |
| Waste recycled (tonnes) | 12.9 | **14.2** | +10.1% | 12 13 |
| Recycling rate | 17.1% | **18.3%** | +1.2 pp | 12 |
| IT units donated for reuse (Antel Integra) | — | **479** | new | 12 10 |

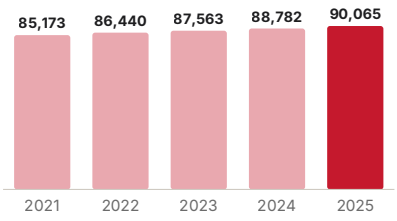
**Waste recycled on campus (tonnes)**




**Business ideas submitted to the CIE**




**Library collection (volumes)**




Sources: Anuario 2024 and Anuario 2025 (new students, graduates, publications, projects, agreements, mobility, library, CIE); Sustainability Report 2024 (2023 values); ORT Recicla reports published in ORT news (19 December 2024 and 26 December 2025). Shares of new undergraduates refer to university degrees (excluding international exchange). "pp" = percentage points. CIE = Center for Innovation and Entrepreneurship. USAC = University Studies Abroad Consortium.

EDUCATION FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

# Sustainability in the curriculum

In 2025 every school and the Institute of Education mapped the courses that address sustainability substantively: environmental impact and natural resources, social responsibility, sustainable governance, reporting standards, and sustainable business models and innovation.

**155**
course offerings with sustainability content

**138**
distinct courses

**118**
offerings are mandatory in their programme

**6 + IE**
academic units reporting

### Course offerings by academic unit and SDG

| | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | Total |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Engineering** | | 3 | 2 | 6 | | 3 | 13 | 4 | 15 | | 1 | 9 | 2 | | 4 | 22 | 2 | 36 |
| **Management & Social Sciences** | 1 | 5 | | 11 | 9 | | 4 | 12 | 8 | 11 | 2 | 6 | 7 | | 2 | 15 | 6 | 50 |
| **Design** | | | 2 | 10 | 2 | | | 2 | 13 | 13 | 4 | 15 | 3 | | 5 | 11 | 3 | 37 |
| **Architecture** | | | | 3 | | 2 | 7 | 1 | | | 7 | 3 | 5 | | 1 | 3 | 1 | 15 |
| **Communication** | | | | 3 | 1 | | 1 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 3 | | | 1 | 4 | 4 | 7 |
| **Institute of Education** | | | | 9 | | | | | | 2 | 1 | | | | | 1 | | 10 |

Darker cells indicate more course offerings linked to the goal. A course can contribute to several SDGs. The SDG link is indicative, derived from each course's reported sustainability content. Courses taught in more than one programme are counted once per programme.

## Dedicated courses

Sustainable Business Management (Management, Marketing and Accounting); Sustainability and Risk Management (Finance and Accounting); Sustainability and Responsible Management (MBA, Executive MBA, Human Resources and Marketing masters); Accounting and Finance for Sustainable Development; Climate Change.

## Engineering and architecture

Renewable Generation and Smart Grids; Energy Economics; Bioremediation; Environmental Aspects in Engineering; Advanced Topics in Biotechnology (life-cycle analysis, carbon footprint); Renewable Energy and Environmental Management; Diploma in Sustainable Architecture.

## Design, communication, education

Industrial Design 5 (ecodesign); upcycling and slow fashion; Final Integrative Project with SDG justification; Corporate Social Responsibility and Sustainable Development; Communication for Impact; Society and Institutions.




Yazmín Vidal, winner of the Charlotte de Grünberg Scholarship, with the selection jury.

1 NO POVERTY

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOAL 1

# No Poverty

Access to university should not depend on family income. In 2025 ORT launched its most ambitious scholarship to date, kept expanding entrepreneurship programmes for women and migrants, and placed its students' skills at the service of people living in vulnerable conditions.

**100%**

tuition plus a monthly stipend: the new Charlotte de Grünberg Scholarship

**31.9%**

of new undergraduates came from public high schools (27.9% in 2024)

**479**

computers and monitors donated to close the digital divide

## TEACHING & LEARNING

### Charlotte de Grünberg Scholarship

Launched on 20 August 2025 in honour of Charlotte de Grünberg, the university's Director General from 1977 to 2024, this competitive scholarship covers 100% of the cost of a university degree plus a monthly stipend of UYU 30,000 for the whole programme. It was open to final-year secondary students under 20 from across the country. More than 100 students sat the written test on 28 November; selection combined the test, academic record, socioeconomic context and motivation, before a jury that included former minister María Julia Muñoz, Plan Ceibal founder Miguel Brechner and writer Ruperto Long. On 18 December Yazmín Vidal, from Colonia del Sacramento, was named winner and will study Architecture; finalists María Elena Mieres (Rivera), Sebastián Geribone (Montevideo) and Bautista Cobas (San José) received 80% scholarships. ort.edu.uy/novedades/ganadora-de-la-beca-charlotte-de-grunberg

### A standing scholarship system

Need-based and merit-based scholarship funds continue to operate for every degree, with awards assessed through the Academic Aptitude Test and a sworn income statement, and personal interviews for students from the interior of the country.

### Sustainability content in the curriculum

Courses such as Innovación Social (social innovation and impact investing) and Procesos Migratorios Contemporáneos address poverty, exclusion and the economic dimension of sustainable development.

## RESEARCH & INNOVATION

### Financial inclusion

Faculty from the School of Management and Social Sciences published research on financial inclusion and its impact on payments, savings and credit, and on the Uruguayan financial inclusion programme.

### Natural disasters and household wealth

Research presented at the VII Workshop on Environmental Economics and Climate Change (Buenos Aires) and the XXII RIDGE Forum (Montevideo) analysed the impact of natural disasters on wealth.

## COMMUNITY & PARTNERSHIPS

### Entrepreneurship for women and migrants

The Center for Innovation and Entrepreneurship (CIE) and the National Institute of Employment and Vocational Training (INEFOP) ran the 22nd edition of Arena Emprendedora for local and migrant women (29 April–29 August, 19 virtual sessions), and a new online programme, Red de oportunidades emprendedoras para mujeres, which pre-incubates the five best women-led initiatives. cie.ort.edu.uy/novedades/forma-parte-de-la-22-edicion-de-arena-empr...

### Design for people experiencing homelessness

Interior Design students developed proposals for Proyecto La Olla, a community centre of Asociación Civil Hogar de Cristo that will feed and support people living on the street and migrants, turning a car park into a kitchen, dining room and clothing-distribution space.

### Building a community hall

Architecture students in Construction Procedures 4 and the dry-construction elective built a new social hall and dining room for Auriblanco Basketball Club, which works on youth inclusion through sport and rehabilitation of people with disabilities.

### Closing the digital divide

ORT donated 479 IT units (233 monitors and 246 CPUs) to Antel Integra, which refurbishes equipment and redistributes it to people in vulnerable contexts across Uruguay. ort.edu.uy/novedades/ort-dona-equipos-informaticos-a-proyecto-antel...

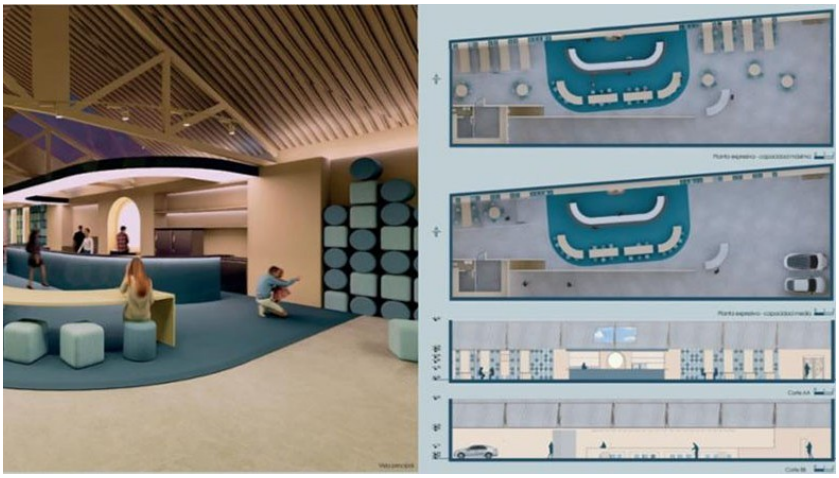
### A school for Senegal

Fiorella Rossi, Mateo Montenegro and Belén Suárez, Architecture students in Project 5, were among the 35 finalists, from entries in more than 20 countries, of the Kaira Looro 2025 competition run by the humanitarian organization Balouo Salo. The brief was a nursery school for rural southern Senegal with five classrooms for 20 children each, an infirmary, dining room and play area; the jury highlighted its inclusive approach and cultural sensitivity. fa.ort.edu.uy/novedades/estudiantes-de-arquitectura-fueron-finalist...

**1 course offerings linked to SDG 1 in 2025**

- Medio Ambiente, Desarrollo y Negociación Internacional (Management)

# A scholarship that opens the door to university



Student proposals for Proyecto La Olla, a community centre of Asociación Civil Hogar de Cristo, exhibited at the School of Architecture.

On 20 August 2025 Universidad ORT Uruguay launched the Charlotte de Grünberg Scholarship, a tribute to the university's Director General between 1977 and 2024. It is the most comprehensive award the university has ever offered: it covers 100% of the cost of a university degree and adds a monthly stipend of UYU 30,000 for the entire programme, starting in March 2026, so that cost of living is not a barrier to studying.

The competition was open to students in the final year of upper secondary education anywhere in Uruguay, under 20 years old and with high academic performance. The written test, held on 28 November, drew more than 100 students from across the country and was inspired by La niña que miraba los trenes partir, the novel by engineer Ruperto Long. Selection combined the test, academic record, socioeconomic context and personal motivation.

The jury brought together Ruperto Long; Miguel Brechner, founder of Plan Ceibal; Dr. María Julia Muñoz, former Minister of Education and Culture and of Public Health; Prof. Gabriel Quirici, National Director of Education at the Ministry of Education and Culture; and Dr. Denise Vaillant, Dean of the Institute of Education.

On 18 December Yazmín Vidal, from Colonia del Sacramento, was announced as the winner and will study Architecture. Finalists María Elena Mieres (Rivera), Sebastián Geribone (Montevideo) and Bautista Cobas (San José) received 80% scholarships, three of the four coming from outside Montevideo. In parallel, a Charlotte de Grünberg Scholarship with the National Academy of Medicine opened the Master in Education to a physician who teaches surgery.

## SELECTED 2025 PUBLICATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS BY ORT FACULTY


1. Gandelman, N., Lluberas, R., & Misail, D. (2025). Financial inclusion and its impact on payment, savings, and credit. International Review of Economics and Finance, 100, 18 p.
2. Gandelman, N., Roldán, F., & Viera, S. (2025). The impact of multi-acquiring in the payment system: Evidence from the Uruguayan financial inclusion program. Journal of Regulatory Economics, 68, 146-172.
3. Acerenza, S., Gandelman, N., & Misail, D. (2025). Neighborhood impacts on human capital accumulation of adolescents and young adults in Montevideo. Regional Science and Urban Economics, 111, 14 p.
4. Davies, J. B., & Lluberas, R. (2025, 8-9 de diciembre). The impact of natural disasters on wealth in the United States. [Presentación de artículo]. XXII RIDGE Forum. VII Workshop on Environmental Economics, Montevideo, Uruguay.




Business Challenge 2025: secondary students presented ideas on construction-waste reuse and on waste and food.

2 ZERO HUNGER

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOAL 2

# Zero Hunger

Uruguay is an agri-food economy, and ORT contributes through biotechnology research that turns agro-industrial by-products into higher-value food ingredients, economics research on irrigation and agribusiness, and support for food entrepreneurs.

**2**

ANII-funded biotechnology projects turning by-products into food ingredients

**8**

courses mapped to SDG 2, from agro-biotechnology to agribusiness trade

**1st**

agricultural podcast in the country co-produced by the School of Communication

## TEACHING & LEARNING

### Food systems in the curriculum

Agro-biotechnology, Food Technology (sustainable food systems) and Introduction to Biotechnology in Engineering; Agricultural Trade and Development, Foreign Trade in Agribusiness and Marketing in Agribusiness in Management.

### Slow food in hotels

Tourism and Hotel Management students Emma Gregson and Noemie Pinsonneault-Berger were finalists in the Innovative Ideas category of Hoteles más Verdes, a sustainable hospitality competition covering Argentina, Chile, Paraguay and Uruguay, with "De la naturaleza a la mesa", a phased slow food programme for hotel restaurants that supports local producers and preserves gastronomic traditions. facs.ort.edu.uy/novedades/turismo-sustentable-propuesta-slow-food-f...

## RESEARCH & INNOVATION

### Isoflavones from soy by-products

A project funded by the National Agency for Research and Innovation (ANII) through the Innovagro sector fund reprograms bacteria to produce (S)-equol, a high-value metabolite, from soybean meal, creating a biocatalyst with industrial potential (lead: Dr. Cecilia Ortiz).

### Fungal extracts for the food industry

With ANII Alianzas funding and the company Mushlove, researchers are developing liposomal formulations with fungal extracts for food and cosmetic applications, including the valorization of oil-production residues as a lecithin source (lead: Dr. Mariana Umpiérrez).

### Whey and microalgae for cattle health

Biotechnology students Agustina Lima and Ignacio Rodríguez were selected for Projects for Peace 2025, the Middlebury College programme that funds student-led community projects worldwide, with a proposal to revalorize whey, a dairy by-product, using microalgae to produce a probiotic supplement for cattle. fi.ort.edu.uy/novedades/dos-estudiantes-de-biotecnologia-fueron-sel...

### Supplementary irrigation

Research by the Department of Economics with the Centre for Economic Research (Cinve) shows the room for Uruguay to expand supplementary irrigation to raise and stabilize crop yields; findings feed into the Diploma in Sustainable Agribusiness. facs.ort.edu.uy/novedades/riego-suplementario-estrategia-clave-para...

### Traceability for sustainable wine

Engineering students built AgroTrace for the National Institute of Viticulture (INAVI), a platform supporting traceability and certification of sustainable wine production.

## COMMUNITY & PARTNERSHIPS

### Innova Alimentos

A CIE programme funded by INEFOP to identify and strengthen entrepreneurial projects in the food sector (18 months).

### Biotechnology alliances with industry

The Faculty of Engineering promoted alliances to transform the food industry through biotechnology and took part in Foro Biotech 2025. fi.ort.edu.uy/novedades/alianzas-para-transformar-la-industria-alim...

### La Sede

The School of Communication co-produced La Sede, the country's first agricultural podcast, an initiative of the Rural Society of Río Negro recorded in ORT's television studio and aimed at young people finishing secondary school; it premiered on 15 May 2025. fc.ort.edu.uy/novedades/la-sede-primer-podcast-agropecuario-del-pai...

### Youth ideas on waste and food

At the 4th Business Challenge for secondary students, the proposal Reciclash received a special mention for tackling waste management and food together. facs.ort.edu.uy/novedades/ganadores-2025-del-business-challenge

**8 course offerings linked to SDG 2 in 2025**

- Agrobiotecnologías (Engineering)
- Marketing en Agronegocios (Management)
- Comercio Exterior en Agronegocios (Management)
- Tecnología de los alimentos (Engineering)
- Comercio y Desarrollo Agrícola (Management)
- Cambio Climático (Management)
- Temas avanzados Biotecnología (Engineering)

# From agro-industrial by-products to food value

**2**
ANII-funded projects turning soy and oil by-products into food ingredients

**6**
2025 publications and presentations on food systems and agriculture

**8**
courses linked to SDG 2 in the 2025 curriculum mapping

Uruguay produces food for many times its population, and the by-products of that production are a growing research focus at the Faculty of Engineering's biotechnology laboratories. In 2025 Dr. Cecilia Ortiz's team began an ANII Innovagro project to reprogram bacteria so that they produce (S)-equol, a high-value metabolite derived from soy isoflavones, from soybean meal. The team presented its synthetic-biology biocatalyst at the Next Generation Biocatalysis Symposium in Milan and its approach to valorizing soy by-products under a One Health framework at a congress in Salto.

A second project, led by Dr. Mariana Umpiérrez with ANII Alianzas funding and the company Mushlove, develops liposomal formulations with fungal extracts for food and cosmetic applications and studies the valorization of oil-production residues as a source of lecithin. In the same line, Dr. Lorena Betancor's group published in Sustainable Chemistry and Pharmacy a process to produce L-sorbose using food-waste media and recyclable resting cells.

Research also supports safer, more productive agriculture. Faculty co-authored work in Pest Management Science on improving the fungus Beauveria bassiana as a biological control agent against the soybean pest Piezodorus guildinii, an alternative to chemical insecticides, and Franz Mayr presented neural models that predict soybean yields in the eastern pampas from open data.

In economics, Francisco Rosas and the Department of Economics, with the Centre for Economic Research (Cinve), showed the room for Uruguay to expand supplementary irrigation to stabilize yields, research that feeds the Diploma in Sustainable Agribusiness.

## SELECTED 2025 PUBLICATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS BY ORT FACULTY


1. Tejera, T., Blázquez, B., Manta, B., Nogales, J., & Ortiz, C. (2025, 8-9 de mayo). Synthetic biology-driven construction of a whole-cell biocatalyst for sustainable (S)-Equol production from soy byproducts. [Presentación de póster]. 5th Next Generation Biocatalysis Symposium (NextGenBiocat), Milano, Italia.
2. Viroga, V., Canclini, A., Boado, J., Tejera, T., & Ortiz, C. (2025, 28-30 de noviembre). Valorización de subproductos de soja bajo un enfoque de Una Salud. [Presentación de póster]. Congreso Uruguayo en Una sola Salud: I Jornada académica del Instituto de Investigación Una sola Salud, Salto, Uruguay.
3. Pirotti, F. D., Soriano, N., Ripoll, M., Domínguez de María, P., Barrow, C. J., & Betancor, L. (2025). Improving the sustainability of Gluconobacter oxydans L-Sorbose production using food waste media and recyclable resting cells. Sustainable Chemistry and Pharmacy, 46, 18 p.
4. Mayr, F., Cal, A., Gaso, D., Branbate, F., Feuer, A., & García, J. (2025). Soybean yield prediction in the eastern pampas of South America using neural models and open source variables. En Anais do XXI Simpósio Brasileiro de Sensoriamento Remoto.
5. Lima Ferreira, P., Etchevers, I., Cuña Rodriguez, C., Velázquez, P., González, L., Leão Fernandes, E. H., Lopes Leães Pinho, G., & García Rodríguez, F. (2025). Links between international market trends, agricultural intensification and extreme sedimentation rates in a transboundary South American coastal lagoon. Science of the Total Environment, 975, 11 p.
6. Oberti, H., Sessa, L., Van Roosmalen, E., De Bekkes, C., Seidl, M. F., Sanchez Vallet, A., & Abreo, E. (2025). From omics to enhanced fungal virulence: Overexpression of a putative secreted protein improves Beauveria bassiana biocontrol potential against the insect pest Piezodorus guildinii. Pest Management Science.




Delivery of the Charlotte de Grünberg Scholarship for physicians at the National Academy of Medicine.

3 GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOAL 3

# Good Health and Well-being

2025 marked ORT's entry into Health Sciences with a new Institute of Dermatology. Biotechnology, engineering and education research also contributed to health, while campaigns and university sport promoted well-being.

**New**

Institute of Dermatology and Health Sciences academic area

**100%**

scholarship for a physician-teacher to research robotic-surgery training

**6th**

consecutive year of the Mayo Amarillo road-safety campaign

## TEACHING & LEARNING

### Institute of Dermatology

Announced on 21 October 2025 under the direction of Dr. Carlos Bazzano, the institute launched a three-year, in-person Postgraduate Specialization in Medical-Surgical Dermatology for an initial intake of 12 physicians. Clinical practice accounts for 69% of the hours, at partner sites including Hospital Policial, Hospital Evangélico, Sanatorio Americano and Círculo Católico de Obreros del Uruguay, opening Health Sciences as a new academic area at ORT. ort.edu.uy/novedades/encuentro-academico-postgrado-de-especializaci...

### Educating those who train doctors

With the Support Foundation of the National Academy of Medicine (ANM), ORT awarded a 100% Charlotte de Grünberg Scholarship to Dr. Ulises Parada (Hospital de Clínicas) for the Master in Education, where he researches simulation-based teaching of robotic surgery. Dr. Patricia Agüero received a 50% scholarship. ie.ort.edu.uy/novedades/ulises-parada-ensenar-tambien-es-curar

### Health in the curriculum

Ethical and Social Aspects of Biotechnology (bioethics and biosafety), Ergonomics 1 and 2 (healthy, inclusive product design) and Food Technology.

## RESEARCH & INNOVATION

### Advanced nanoparticle characterization

Through the ANII Scientific Equipment Programme, ORT acquired a Zetasizer Ultra, described as unprecedented in Uruguay and the region, to strengthen biotechnology research (lead: Dr. Lorena Betancor).

### Bioprocesses for health

Students and faculty explored biotechnology for health and the environment; Biotechnology student Bárbara Miller won second place outside Europe in the BIOSOL2025 Global Student Challenge (University of Copenhagen), among 38 teams.

### The cost of obesity

Ricardo Kaufmann and Norma Pontet received the best-rated paper award at the XXII Ibero-American Congress of Management Control (CIBEC 2025) for research on productivity lost and recoverable due to obesity.

### Medical devices

Electronics Engineering graduate Lucas Cresci works at Impulse Dynamics on the team developing an implantable device for patients with heart failure, after starting at Integer, which manufactures implantable devices in Uruguay; the link began at the Faculty of Engineering employment fair. fi.ort.edu.uy/novedades/los-dispositivos-implantables-transforman-v...

## COMMUNITY & PARTNERSHIPS

### Road safety

For the sixth consecutive year, Graphic Design and Digital Design students took part in the Mayo Amarillo road-safety campaign with the National Road Safety Unit (Unasev) and B'nai B'rith. Awards were presented on 30 June, and for the first time the competition included a video category alongside posters. fd.ort.edu.uy/novedades/se-celebro-una-nueva-premiacion-de-mayo-ama...

### Breast cancer awareness

ORT joined the October breast-cancer awareness campaign, with Fashion Design students taking part. ort.edu.uy/novedades/campana-de-concientizacion-sobre-el-cancer-de-...

### Sport and well-being

University teams won the University Futsal Tournament (third title), the women's hockey Silver Cup Intermediate A, the women's volleyball Clausura (LIVOSUR) and the Copa Jorge Gordon Taylor in basketball.

**4 course offerings linked to SDG 3 in 2025**

- Ergonomía 1 (4052) (Design)
- Ergonomía 2 (Design)
- Asp éticos y soc de la Biotec. (Engineering)
- Tecnología de los alimentos (Engineering)

# Health Sciences: a new academic area



Winners of the 2025 Mayo Amarillo road-safety awards, with representatives of Unasev and B'nai B'rith.

On 21 October 2025 ORT announced the creation of its Institute of Dermatology, an academic and clinical unit for teaching, clinical practice, research and outreach in dermatology, directed by Prof. Dr. Carlos Bazzano. With it, the university opened Health Sciences as a new academic area.

Its first programme, the Postgraduate Specialization in Medical-Surgical Dermatology, is a three-year, in-person course focused on clinical practice, dermatopathology and surgery, with an initial intake of 12 physicians from April 2026. Clinical practice accounts for 69% of the hours and takes place at partner institutions including Hospital Policial, Hospital Evangélico, Sanatorio Americano, Círculo Católico de Obreros del Uruguay and specialized clinics; agreements with international organizations allow internships abroad.

Health research also advanced in biotechnology. The protein technology group presented studies on variants of the enzyme cytosine deaminase with biomedical applications, and on horseradish peroxidase immobilized on hybrid nanoplatforms and its interaction with mammalian cells, at congresses in Colombia and Chile.

Health promotion reached beyond the campus. Design students produced posters and, for the first time, videos for the Mayo Amarillo road-safety campaign with the National Road Safety Unit (Unasev) and B'nai B'rith, awarded on 30 June; Fashion Design students joined the October breast-cancer awareness campaign; and university sports teams competed and won in futsal, hockey, volleyball, handball and basketball.

## SELECTED 2025 PUBLICATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS BY ORT FACULTY


1. Patrón, L., Costa, M., Grazú, V., Paulino, M., Ortiz, C., & Betancor, L. (2025, 14-18 de julio). Comparative in silico study of wild type and S126R variant of cytosine deaminase interacting with the substrates cytosine and 5-Fluorocytosine. [Presentación de póster]. XLVIII International Congress of Theoretical Chemists of Latin Expression (QUITEL 2025), Cartagena, Colombia.
2. Patrón, L., Costa, M., Grazú, V., Paulino, M., Ortiz, C., & Betancor, L. (2025, 6-10 de octubre). Modelado estructural y funcional de variantes de citosina desaminasa con aplicaciones biomédicas. [Presentación de póster]. XII Curso Latinoamericano de Biotecnología (XII CLAB), Valparaíso, Chile.
3. Costa, M., Mulet, A. P., Grazú, V., & Betancor, L. (2025, 6-10 de octubre). Inmovilización de HRP en nanoplataformas híbridas y su interacción con células de mamífero. [Presentación de póster]. XII Curso Latinoamericano de Biotecnología (XII CLAB), Valparaíso, Chile.
4. Kaufmann, R., & Pontet, N. (2025, 5-7 de noviembre). Productividad perdida vs. productividad recuperable: el componente invisible del costo de la obesidad. [Presentación de artículo]. XXII Congreso Iberoamericano de Control de Gestión (CIBEC 2025), Montevideo, Uruguay.



Postgraduate graduation ceremony at Teatro Solís, 8 September 2025: 384 graduates took part.

4 QUALITY EDUCATION

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOAL 4

# Quality Education

Quality education is ORT's core contribution to sustainable development. In 2025 the university graduated more professionals than ever, launched new doctoral and master's programmes, earned new accreditations and opened its knowledge to secondary schools and the wider public.

**2,025**
graduates in 2025 (1,626 in 2024)

**155**
course offerings with sustainability content across six schools and the Institute of Education

**97%**
average employment rate of university graduates over the last three years

## TEACHING & LEARNING

### Record graduation

2,025 professionals graduated in 2025 (+24.5%): 344 from postgraduate programmes, 663 from university degrees and 1,018 from short programmes. 38 of the 551 graduates at the undergraduate ceremony graduated with honours.

### New programmes

Doctorate in Engineering (Artificial Intelligence, Theoretical Computing, Biotechnology, Quantum Computing, Software Engineering and Applied Mathematics); Master in Artificial Intelligence; Master in Strategic Design and Innovation, integrating sustainability and ethics; Postgraduate Specialization in Dermatology; and a new Bachelor in Bioinformatics. fi.ort.edu.uy/novedades/la-facultad-de-ingenieria-lanza-un-doctorad...

### Sustainability across the curriculum

A 2025 mapping identified 155 course offerings (138 distinct courses) with substantive sustainability content, 118 of them mandatory, from Sustainable Business Management and Sustainability and Risk Management to Renewable Energy, Bioremediation and Industrial Design 5 (ecodesign).

### Quality assurance

The Electronic and Telecommunications Engineering degrees were accredited for five years by ARCU-SUR, the MERCOSUR regional accreditation system; the School of Management and Social Sciences obtained joint AMBA and BGA accreditation until 2030. facs.ort.edu.uy/novedades/la-facultad-de-administracion-y-ciencias-...

### Teaching for the age of AI

ORT held its first Winter School for faculty on 5–6 August, organized by the Centre for Teaching Support with more than 100 participants. Speakers Dr. Carlos Marcelo (University of Seville) and Dr. Carina Lion (University of Buenos Aires) joined presentations of faculty projects using artificial intelligence (AI) for teaching and assessment. ort.edu.uy/novedades/escuela-de-invierno-2025-el-rol-docente-frente...

## RESEARCH & INNOVATION

### Education research

The Institute of Education started a project on teachers' digital competences for AI-mediated assessment (ANII Education Fund) and one with the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) on secondary teaching in the Dominican Republic. Results published in January 2025 of an action-research project with Edúcate Uruguay in rural secondary schools of Cerro Largo and Salto, with 17 agricultural companies and 101 students, found that almost 20% of students had considered dropping out and 70% struggled to express ideas in writing. ie.ort.edu.uy/novedades/conectar-y-formar-la-continuidad-educativa-...

### Global engineering education

ORT hosted the IX IEEE World Engineering Education Conference (EDUNINE 2025), the first held in Uruguay, with more than 100 researchers discussing education in the era of generative AI. fi.ort.edu.uy/novedades/ix-ieee-world-engineering-education-confere...

## COMMUNITY & PARTNERSHIPS

### Open contests for secondary students

Scholarships of up to 80% were awarded through HackORT, Innová con Biotecnología (bioethanol from organic waste), AI in Action, #VIVÍDISEÑO (37 projects), HackaCOM (24 participants), the Business Challenge, Diseña tu Cuarto (112 projects) and the Spaghetti Challenge (32 teams).

### Leadership training for teachers in vulnerable contexts

With ReachingU Foundation, the Institute of Education offered the Certificate in Educational Management with an Emphasis on Transformational Leadership with 40 fully funded scholarships for teachers and school leaders from schools serving vulnerable communities across Uruguay; 36 participants completed the programme. It focused on leadership, inclusive and equitable education and improving educational quality in local communities. ie.ort.edu.uy/novedades/liderar-para-transformar

### Open educational resources

ORT offers free educational resources to people outside the university: openly accessible teaching materials, an interactive cybersecurity learning game, an academic repository and open-access journals. External visitors can consult the university libraries free of charge after registering, and the library reached 90,065 volumes. Free training programmes in 2025 included one on sustainable entrepreneurship. ort.edu.uy/la-universidad/sostenibilidad/recursos-educativos-abiert...

### 262 public events

In 2025 ORT organized 262 academic and cultural events across its schools and institutes, including free activities open to the general public, such as lectures on environmental challenges and architectural heritage, the Multimedia Forum and a series of talks on emerging professional profiles in design, with free admission, open registration and, for selected events, online access. The Faculty of Engineering also held 29 open talks with companies, published on YouTube. ort.edu.uy/novedades/eventos-2025-aprendizaje-continuo-comunidad

### Professional training for the wider community

Vocational and executive education open to professionals outside the university included the Women Leaders Development Programme, an executive course on neuroscience-based leadership and free programmes of the Center for Innovation and Entrepreneurship (CIE) on business development, innovation, the circular economy and sustainability. ort.edu.uy/la-universidad/sostenibilidad/educacion-e-investigacion/...

### Taking science to a secondary school

As part of Projects for Peace 2025, Biotechnology Engineering students delivered lessons, laboratory sessions and field activities at Instituto Adventista del Uruguay on dairy waste management, the circular economy, water-quality monitoring and microalgae cultivation, using the school's dairy and artificial lake as learning settings. The teaching materials and laboratory equipment remained at the school. fi.ort.edu.uy/novedades/estudiantes-acercaron-la-investigacion-a-la...

### Inclusive Access to Lifelong Learning Policy

Since 2025 ORT has an Inclusive Access to Lifelong Learning Policy (Document No. 1462) that promotes equal access to lectures, seminars, workshops and professional development courses open to the community, ensures non-discrimination regardless of ethnicity, religion, disability, immigration status, gender or other personal characteristics, and promotes physical accessibility. ort.edu.uy/reglamentos/1462.pdf

### Open events in design and animation

On 9 July the Betatesting event at Campus Centro, open to everyone, let the public test nine video games created by students of Animation and Video Games, Engineering and Communication. From 3 to 5 September the 19th International Animation Festival (FIA) screened 33 short films from around the world, with lectures, workshops for pre-university students and the participation of Uruguay's Film and Audiovisual Agency (ACAU) and Vancouver Film School. fd.ort.edu.uy/novedades/tres-dias-para-vivir-la-animacion-asi-se-ce...

**42 course offerings linked to SDG 4 in 2025**

- Transformación del modelo e negocvos (Management)
- La planificación de la formación (Education)
- Gestión de requerimientos para la transformación digital (Engineering)
- Seminario: Problemas educativos contemporáneos (Education)
- Diagnóstico de necesidades de formación (Education)
- Gestión de las instituciones educativas (Education)
- Planificación estratégica en la gestión educativa (Education)
- Estrategia de sistemas de información (Engineering)
- Gestión y gobernanza de la seguridad de la información (Engineering)

# Teaching and learning in the age of artificial intelligence




Dr. Lourdes Cardozo Gaibisso (Mississippi State University) and Natalia Zambon, who lead the BRIDGE-TESOL professional development project for English teachers.

From 22 to 26 March ORT hosted the IX IEEE World Engineering Education Conference (EDUNINE 2025), the global event of the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE) on engineering education, held in Uruguay for the first time. More than 100 researchers from Argentina, Spain, the United States, Guatemala, Portugal and Uruguay debated "Education in the age of generative AI". ORT faculty presented, among other work, AutoGrade, an AI-based assessment tool for introductory programming.

On 5–6 August the university held its first Winter School for faculty, organized by its teaching support centre with more than 100 participants in person and online. Dr. Carlos Marcelo (University of Seville) and Dr. Carina Lion (University of Buenos Aires) spoke on the teaching role in the face of AI, and faculty shared projects such as an AI teaching assistant, AutoGrade and EPICA, an AI tool for creativity in architecture research.

The Institute of Education published in the International Journal of Educational Research on teaching in multigrade rural classrooms, in Prospects on teacher education curricula in Latin America, and on AI in Uruguayan secondary schools; it began an ANII project on teachers' digital competences for AI-mediated assessment.

Partnerships extend this work: with Mississippi State University, the BRIDGE-TESOL project develops teachers of English to speakers of other languages, and forty teachers from vulnerable contexts studied educational leadership with ReachingU Foundation scholarships.

## SELECTED 2025 PUBLICATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS BY ORT FACULTY

1. Questa Torterolo, M., Cabrera, C., & Fajardo Puentes, C. (2025). A case of teaching in multigrade classrooms in Uruguay: challenges and opportunities for learning and teaching in inclusive environments. International Journal of Educational Research, 131, 11 p.
2. Rivas, A., Cox, C., Vaillant, D., Cabrera, C., Peña Fredes, J., & Gil Deza, L. (2025). Exploring the pedagogical field: A comparative study of the teacher education curriculum in Latin America. Prospects, 24 p.
3. Vaillant, D., Marcelo, C., & Marcelo Martínez, P. (2025). Educadores na era da digitalização: Uso de redes sociais na Ibero-América. Teachers in the era of digitalization: Use of social media in Latin-America. Cadernos de Pesquisa, 55, 23 p.
4. Questa Torterolo, M., Cabrera, C., Padrón Maurino, Y., & Pereira Ramón, N. (2025). Inteligencia artificial en secundaria: perspectivas y percepciones de docentes uruguayos. Cuadernos de Investigación Educativa, 16(2), 21 p.
5. Friss de Kereki, I., & Garrido, I. (2025). "AutoGrade": An AI-based assessment tool for computer science 1. En Proceedings 2025 IEEE Engineering Education World Conference (EDUNINE 2025) (pp. 0-6). IEEE.
6. Calegari, D., & Delgado, A. (2025). A systematic review on process mining for curricular analysis. Wiley Interdisciplinary Reviews: Data Mining and Knowledge Discovery, 15(2), 20 p.




Faculty of Engineering activity for secondary-school girls, 2025.

5 GENDER EQUALITY

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOAL 5

# Gender Equality

ORT works to close gender gaps where they persist, especially in technology, and to strengthen women's leadership and entrepreneurship through teaching, research and community programmes.

**42.5%**

of new undergraduates were women; 74% in Architecture

**27.2%**

women among new engineering undergraduates (25.9% in 2024)

**22nd**

edition of Arena Emprendedora for women entrepreneurs

## TEACHING & LEARNING

### Women in new cohorts

Of 1,562 new undergraduates in 2025, 664 were women (42.5%). Women were the majority in Architecture (74%), Design (67%) and Communication (66%), and 27.2% in Engineering, up from 25.9% in 2024.

### Gender in the curriculum

The Women and Leadership elective (Management, Accounting and Digital Business), and Human Resources and People Management courses that incorporate a gender perspective in human capital policies.

### Women Leaders Programme

The Business School's Women Leaders Development Programme, a 48-hour programme of five seminars (negotiation and influence, effective leadership practices, mental models and implicit biases, and leadership conversations), closed its 2025 edition with networking and leadership sessions. facs.ort.edu.uy/novedades/networking-y-liderazgo-cierre-inspirador-...

## RESEARCH & INNOVATION

### Role models and entrepreneurship

School of Management research examined how role models influence entrepreneurial intentions. facs.ort.edu.uy/novedades/como-influyen-los-irole-modelsi-en-las-in...

### Diversity and disclosure

Faculty presented research at the American Accounting Association Annual Meeting 2025 on boardroom diversity as a catalyst for water-energy disclosure quality in Latin American capital markets, and published on feminist experiences in Latin American development practice.

## COMMUNITY & PARTNERSHIPS

### Girls in ICT

For the International Girls in ICT Day, the Faculty of Engineering ran three workshops for secondary-school girls: robotics, biotechnology and women in technology. fi.ort.edu.uy/novedades/mas-ninias-en-tecnologia-sembrar-vocaciones...

### Women's Entrepreneurship Day

ORT hosted WEDO Uy 2025 on 19 November with Women's Entrepreneurship Day ambassador Dr. Cristina Bertolotto. Two panels moderated by Sabrina Bianchi, on communication and innovation and on leadership, brought together women leaders from media, technology and business; the initiative is celebrated in 144 countries and 112 universities. ort.edu.uy/novedades/womens-entrepreneurship-day-uruguay-2025-lider...

### Women Game Jam

ORT collaborated with a new edition of the Women Game Jam. fd.ort.edu.uy/novedades/la-universidad-ort-uruguay-colaboro-con-una...

### Recognition

Andrea Melle was one of four Uruguayan women selected for the Santander W50 programme at the London School of Economics; Design graduates Michelle Malrechauffe and Florencia Tomassini had two of the three designs chosen among 138 in #MiBalcónFeminista (Municipio B).

**12 course offerings linked to SDG 5 in 2025**

- Mujer y Liderazgo (Management)
- La Sociedad Civil Global en la Era de las Redes (Management)
- Cibercultura (Design)
- Recursos Humanos (Management)
- Gestión de Personas (Management)
- Cultura y comunicación (3710) (Design)
- Planificación de eventos, patrocinio y mecenazgo (Communication)
- Cultura y Sociedad Contemporánea (Management)

# More women in technology and leadership



Isabel Fonseca, founder of NextFem Leaders, lecturing in the Women Leaders Development Programme, April 2025.

Women are the majority of new students in Architecture, Design and Communication, but remain under-represented in engineering. In 2025 they were 27.2% of new engineering undergraduates, up from 25.9%, and the university kept working on the pipeline.

For the International Girls in ICT Day, promoted by the International Telecommunication Union, the Faculty of Engineering ran three workshops for secondary-school girls: “Sentite un robot” with Mariana Derderian, a biotechnology workshop with Mariana Ferrari and “Mujeres en Tecnología” with Cecilia Belletti, academic coordinators of the faculty’s degrees. Secondary-school contests also opened doors: HackORT 2025 was won by Iara Schusman and Ignacio Prantl, who received 80% scholarships for engineering,.

Leadership and entrepreneurship programmes complement this effort. The Business School’s Women Leaders Development Programme, a 48-hour programme with seminars on negotiation and influence, effective leadership and implicit biases, closed its 2025 edition in September. The 22nd edition of Arena Emprendedora, with the National Institute of Employment and Vocational Training (INEFOP), trained local and migrant women entrepreneurs over 19 virtual sessions, and ORT hosted WEDO Uy 2025 on 19 November.

Research addressed gender too, from feminist experiences in Latin American development practice to how board diversity shapes sustainable resource use in emerging markets.

## SELECTED 2025 PUBLICATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS BY ORT FACULTY


1. Pousadela, I. M. (2025). Shifting pracademic roles and identities: Feminist experiences from Latin America. Development in Practice, 35(2), 278-291.
2. Núñez Laguna, I., Gambetta, N., & García Benau, M. A. (2025). Knowledge in the diversity-efficiency nexus: How board composition shapes sustainable resource use in emerging markets. Journal of Innovation & Knowledge, 11, 13 p.
3. Nuñez Laguna, I., Gambetta, N., & García Benau, M. A. (2025, 2-6 de agosto). Boardroom diversity as a catalyst for water-energy disclosure quality: Evidence from Latin American capital markets. [Presentación de artículo]. American Accounting Association Annual Meeting 2025, Chicago, Estados Unidos.



Campus green spaces, Universidad ORT Uruguay.

6 CLEAN WATER AND SANITATION

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOAL 6

# Clean Water and Sanitation

Water quality and the sustainable use of water resources are addressed through biotechnology research on effluent treatment, environmental economics research on groundwater, and courses that teach water footprinting and bioremediation.

**2**

research lines on effluent treatment and sustainable groundwater use

**5**

courses mapped to SDG 6, including Bioremediation

**14 of 16**

classes of an enzymology lab devoted to cutting water use in detergents

## TEACHING & LEARNING

### Bioremediation

A mandatory Biotechnology course on biological systems for treating effluents and restoring ecosystems, covering waste management, water resources and the circular economy.

### Greener cleaning

In the Enzymology Laboratory, students develop a biotechnological product to reduce the water and surfactants needed by industrial, hospital, hotel and household detergents, working on green chemistry across 14 of 16 classes.

### Water footprint and certification

Environmental Aspects in Engineering (water and carbon footprints) and, in the Diploma in Sustainable Architecture, Energy Certification of Buildings and Sustainable Design and Construction 1–3 (water and resilience).

## RESEARCH & INNOVATION

### Algae consortia for industrial effluents

An ANII María Viñas Fund project evaluates algae-algae and algae-fungi consortia to remove nitrogen and phosphorus from industrial effluents and promote circularity in production processes (lead: Dr. Mariana Umpiérrez, 24 months).

### Sustainable groundwater use

Facundo Danza's paper "Optimal and Sustainable Groundwater Use: Evidence from Nebraska" received a special mention in the 12th National Economics Prize Prof. Raúl Trajtenberg, and was presented at the first congress of the Latin American Association of Environmental and Natural Resource Economists (LAERE 2025).

### Water-energy disclosure

Research presented at the American Accounting Association Annual Meeting 2025 analysed the quality of water-energy disclosures in Latin American capital markets.

## COMMUNITY & PARTNERSHIPS

### Irrigation knowledge for the agricultural sector

Economics research on supplementary irrigation was shared with producers and the public through a column in Forbes Uruguay. facs.ort.edu.uy/novedades/riego-suplementario-estrategia-clave-para...

### Water-quality monitoring in a secondary school

Within Projects for Peace 2025, Biotechnology Engineering students taught water-quality monitoring and microalgae cultivation at Instituto Adventista del Uruguay, using the school's artificial lake as a learning setting, and left the laboratory equipment at the school. fi.ort.edu.uy/novedades/estudiantes-acercaron-la-investigacion-a-la...

**5 course offerings linked to SDG 6 in 2025**

- Biorremediación (Engineering)
- Laboratorio de Enzimología (Engineering)
- CERTIFICACIONES ENERGÉTICAS EN EDIFCIOS (Architecture)
- DISEÑO Y CONSTRUCCIÓN SOSTENIBLE 1, 2 Y 3 (Architecture)
- Aspectos Ambientales en Ingeniería (Engineering)

# Biotechnology for cleaner water




Laboratory work at the Faculty of Engineering (illustrative image from the 2025 Yearbook).

Nitrogen and phosphorus in industrial effluents contribute to the eutrophication of rivers and reservoirs. With the ANII María Viñas Fund, Dr. Mariana Umpiérrez leads a 24-month project evaluating consortia of algae with algae and of algae with fungi to remove these nutrients and turn effluents into resources, promoting circularity in production.

The same group published in Environmental Toxicology and Chemistry a study on the uptake and transformation of arsenic by Acidomyces acidophilus, a fungus isolated from acidic mine tailings, contributing to the understanding of bioremediation of contaminated waters.

Teaching connects this research with future professionals. Bioremediation, a mandatory course in Biotechnology, covers biological systems to treat effluents and restore ecosystems; in the Enzymology Laboratory, students spend 14 of 16 classes designing a biotechnological product to cut the water and surfactants needed for industrial, hospital, hotel and household washing; and Environmental Aspects in Engineering teaches water-footprint accounting.

In economics, Facundo Danza's research on optimal and sustainable groundwater use received a special mention in the National Economics Prize Prof. Raúl Trajtenberg and was presented at the first congress of the Latin American Association of Environmental and Natural Resource Economists in Bogotá.

## SELECTED 2025 PUBLICATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS BY ORT FACULTY

1. Danza, F. (2025, 19-21 de marzo). Optimal and sustainable groundwater use: Evidence from Nebraska. [Presentación de artículo]. First Congress of the Latin American Association of Environmental and Natural Resource Economists (LAERE 2025), Bogotá, Colombia.
2. Nuñez Laguna, I., Gambetta, N., & García Benau, M. A. (2025, 2-6 de agosto). Boardroom diversity as a catalyst for water-energy disclosure quality: Evidence from Latin American capital markets. [Presentación de artículo]. American Accounting Association Annual Meeting 2025, Chicago, Estados Unidos.
3. Umpiérrez Failache, M., Rahim, A. A., Betancor, L., & Ghoshal, S. (2025). Uptake and transformation of Arsenic by Acidomyces acidophilus isolated from acidic mine tailings and its toxigenic implications. Environmental Toxicology and Chemistry, 12 p.



Campus Pocitos, Universidad ORT Uruguay.

7 AFFORDABLE AND CLEAN ENERGY

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOAL 7

# Affordable and Clean Energy

In a country whose electricity is largely renewable, ORT contributes to the next stage of the energy transition: storage, efficient use and clean energy from waste, and the training of engineers and architects able to design it.

**18 months**
ANII-funded project on second-life batteries for fast chargers

**25**
courses mapped to SDG 7

**1 of 15**
journalists selected worldwide for the Berlin Energy Transition Dialogue fellowship

## TEACHING & LEARNING

### Engineering the energy system

Renewable Generation and Smart Grids, Energy Economics, Power Electronics, Electrical Installations and Electricity Transmission in the Electrical, Electronic and Telecommunications Engineering degrees.

### Designing low-energy buildings

Renewable Energy (solar, wind, biomass and geothermal design) in Architecture; Architecture and Climate, Light, Air and Envelopes and Renewable Energy in the Diploma in Sustainable Architecture.

### Inside the national grid

Engineering students visited the National Load Dispatch Centre of the national power utility UTE. fi.ort.edu.uy/novedades/visita-al-despacho-nacional-de-cargas-de-ute

## RESEARCH & INNOVATION

### Second-life batteries for electric-vehicle chargers

With ANII and the company Ingener, Dr. Andrés Ferragut leads the development of a smart charger with a battery bank for electric-vehicle fast chargers, using second-life batteries as a sustainable and cost-effective energy-management solution.

### Solar panels and firms

Nicolás D'Agosti and Facundo Danza presented research on the impact of solar panel installation on firms' electricity consumption and production at the Annual Economics Conference, the VII Workshop on Environmental Economics and Climate Change and the XXII RIDGE Forum.

### Energy from organic waste

Exogas, a venture supported by the CIE, produces clean energy from organic waste. fi.ort.edu.uy/novedades/exogas-energia-limpia-a-partir-de-residuos-...

### Biofuels

Nanobiotechnology includes a module on nanobiomaterials for biofuel synthesis; the secondary-school contest Innová con Biotecnología challenged students to design bioethanol production from organic waste.

## COMMUNITY & PARTNERSHIPS

### Communicating the transition

Journalism graduate Tatiana Scherz, a reporter at El País, was one of 15 journalists from 12 countries, chosen from more than 1,000 applicants, for the Berlin Energy Transition Dialogue (BETD) Media Fellowship, covering solar energy, battery storage and green hydrogen. fc.ort.edu.uy/novedades/joven-periodista-participa-en-el-berlin-ene...

**25 course offerings linked to SDG 7 in 2025**

- Energías Renovables (Architecture)
- Gen c/renovables y redes int. (Engineering)
- Economía de la energía (Engineering)
- Transporte energía eléctrica (Engineering)
- CERTIFICACIONES ENERGÉTICAS EN EDIFCIOS (Architecture)
- Circuitos y disp. eléctricos 1 (Engineering)
- Circuitos y disp eléct. 2 (Engineering)
- Electrónica de potencia (Engineering)
- LUZ AIRE Y ENVOLVENTES (Architecture)

# Storage and efficiency: the next stage of the energy transition



Piso 25 at Sinergia Faro, Uruguay's first LEED Platinum building, an interior project by the studio of ORT faculty and graduates VAMO.uy, featured by ArchDaily.

Uruguay generates most of its electricity from renewable sources; the challenge now is to store and manage it efficiently. With funding from ANII and the company Ingener, Dr. Andrés Ferragut leads an 18-month project to develop a smart charger with a battery bank for electric-vehicle fast chargers. Using second-life batteries as stationary storage offers a sustainable and cost-effective way to manage energy demand.

Economic research examines the transition from the demand side. Nicolás D'Agosti and Facundo Danza studied the impact of solar panel installation on firms' electricity consumption and production, presenting their work at the Annual Economics Conference in Montevideo, the VII Workshop on Environmental Economics and Climate Change in Buenos Aires and the XXII RIDGE Forum. Francisco Rosas published in Energy Economics a general-equilibrium assessment of climate change policies for Uruguay.

Engineering students learn the energy system end to end, from Renewable Generation and Smart Grids and Power Electronics to Energy Economics, and visited the National Load Dispatch Centre of the national utility UTE. In Architecture, Renewable Energy and the Diploma in Sustainable Architecture teach solar, wind, biomass and geothermal design and building energy certification.

The CIE-supported venture Exogas produces clean energy from organic waste, and journalism graduate Tatiana Scherz covered solar power, storage and green hydrogen as a Berlin Energy Transition Dialogue fellow.

## SELECTED 2025 PUBLICATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS BY ORT FACULTY


1. D'Agosti, N., & Danza, F. (2025, 28 de octubre). The impact of solar panel installation on electricity consumption and production: A firm´s perspective. [Presentación de artículo]. VII Workshop sobre Economía del Medio Ambiente y Cambio Climático, Buenos Aires, Argentina.
2. Rosas, F. (2025). The assessment of climate change policies through a general equilibrium model: An application to Uruguay. Energy Economics, 142, 12 p.
3. Núñez Laguna, I., Gambetta, N., & García Benau, M. A. (2025). Knowledge in the diversity-efficiency nexus: How board composition shapes sustainable resource use in emerging markets. Journal of Innovation & Knowledge, 11, 13 p.



The Horizon team, a CIE-incubated startup that raised USD 3.5 million in 2025.

8 DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOAL 8

# Decent Work and Economic Growth

ORT prepares graduates for decent, high-skill work and is a driver of Uruguay's entrepreneurial ecosystem. In 2025 the Center for Innovation and Entrepreneurship broke records in ideas submitted and companies created.

**476**

business ideas submitted to the CIE (306 in 2024)

**18**

new companies constituted with CIE support (11 in 2024)

**75**

companies and 5,000+ students at the first Employment Month

## TEACHING & LEARNING

### Employability

The average employment rate of university graduates over the last three years was 97%. ORT held its first Employment Month, expanding the Faculty of Engineering's 21-year-old fair into three days: 23 October (Engineering), 6 November (Communication and Design) and 13 November (Management and Architecture), with 75 companies and institutions and more than 5,000 students, plus workshops on personal branding and job search. A new employment portal was also launched. ort.edu.uy/novedades/mes-del-empleo-de-ort-2025

### Decent work in the curriculum

Human Resources and People Management courses address gender perspective and wage agreements; New Digital Ventures and Social Innovation teach sustainable business models.

## RESEARCH & INNOVATION

### Entrepreneurship as science

Funded by ANII's María Viñas Fund, Dr. Marcos Segantini leads the Uruguayan arm of a global study, previously run in Italy, the United Kingdom, Pakistan, Tanzania and the Czech Republic, testing whether training entrepreneurs in the scientific method improves their decisions; Uruguay is the first country in the Americas to take part, and the second stage focuses on sustainable business ideas. A complementary training programme is funded by INEFOP. facs.ort.edu.uy/novedades/fondo-maria-vinas-anii-financia-proyecto-...

### Labour markets

Research on wages, market power and labour productivity in Uruguay was presented at the 30th Annual Meeting of the Latin American and Caribbean Economic Association (LACEA).

## COMMUNITY & PARTNERSHIPS

### Incubation pipeline

476 ideas were submitted; 53 pre-incubation projects reached the Business Idea Validation committee of ANII and the National Development Agency (ANDE); 24 were approved for funding. 25 incubated ventures received Seed Capital (18) or Innovative Entrepreneurs (7) funding, and 18 projects became companies. cie.ort.edu.uy/novedades/cie-reconocido-como-la-institucion-patroci...

### National recognition and investment

ANDE recognized the CIE as the sponsor with the most approved Seed projects since 2016, in a year of record public funding for its ventures. Startups raised private rounds, including Horizon (USD 3.5 million), PayFlex (USD 800,000) and Kunstig Aero (USD 700,000).

### Programmes for small businesses

INEFOP-funded programmes: Agility for SMEs (digital business models), Designing the Future (augmented and virtual reality), Eco-Entrepreneurs Driving the Green Economy and Innova Alimentos. The Co-founder Matching Day had 196 registrations. cie.ort.edu.uy/novedades/ecoemprendedores

**20 course offerings linked to SDG 8 in 2025**

- Nuevos Emprendimientos Digitales (Management)
- Bionegocios (Engineering)
- Electiva 7 (Emprendimientos en industrias creativas) (Design)
- Dirección de Negocios Sostenibles (Management)
- Creación de emprendimientos 1 (Architecture)
- Innovación Social (Management)
- Media Lab (Communication)
- Recursos Humanos (Management)
- Gestión de Personas (Management)

# From the classroom to decent work and new companies




First Employment Month, October–November 2025: students meet employers at the university's stands.

For 21 years the Faculty of Engineering has held an employment fair declared of interest by the Ministries of Education and Culture and of Labour and Social Security. In 2025 ORT expanded it into its first Employment Month across all schools: 23 October for Engineering, 6 November for Communication and Design and 13 November for Management and Architecture. 75 companies and institutions, including Scanntech, Qubika, Sabre, Conaprole, El Observador, VML, PwC, KPMG, Santander and Zonamerica, met more than 5,000 students and graduates, and 210 students had professional profile photos taken in personal branding workshops.

Entrepreneurship is the other route to quality employment. In 2025 the Center for Innovation and Entrepreneurship (CIE) received 476 business ideas, 56% more than in 2024. 53 projects reached the Business Idea Validation committee of ANII and the National Development Agency (ANDE), 25 incubated ventures received Seed Capital or Innovative Entrepreneurs funding, and 18 became companies, among them espor.ai, CellX, CropIA, Edifica and The Legal Tool.

ANDE recognized the CIE as the sponsor with the most approved Seed projects since the instrument was created in 2016. Private investors followed: Horizon raised USD 3.5 million, PayFlex USD 800,000 and Kunstig Aero USD 700,000, and Yeda, founded by a Biotechnology graduate, received the first USD 300,000 investment of OurCrowd LATAM Labs, a consortium that includes the CIE.

## SELECTED 2025 PUBLICATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS BY ORT FACULTY

1. Casacuberta, C., & Gandelman, N. (2025). Wages, market power and labor productivity: Evidence from Uruguay (Working Paper nro. IDB-WP-1682). Inter American Development Bank.
2. Casacuberta, C., & Gandelman, N. (2025). On the use of the factor share approach to measure labor market power. Economics Bulletin, 45(3), 1365-1375.
3. Segantini, M., & Dickes, L. A. (2025). Creative-entrepreneurs and new venture performance. Creative Industries Journal.
4. Matturro, G., Alpuy, S., & Riaño, F. (2025). Mentoring on common software engineering practices for software startups. En Information Technology and Systems. ICITS 2025. Lecture Notes in Networks and Systems, vol 1448 (pp. 49-59). Springer.
5. Gelabert, L., Pereyra, M., & Roldán, F. (2025). Public support prevalence and innovation behavior. Uruguay 2007-2015.
6. Aboal, D., Lanzilotta, B., Pereyra, M., & Queraltó, M. P. (2025). Regional development and convergence clubs in Uruguay. Economía Aplicada, 27(3), 351-381.



The new Business School building, opened in November 2025.

9 INDUSTRY, INNOVATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOAL 9

# Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure

Research capacity doubled in 2025 when measured by new projects, and ORT strengthened the infrastructure, equipment and international recognition that underpin innovation in Uruguay.

**24**

research projects started or approved (12 in 2024)

**187**

academic publications by ORT faculty

**2**

ORT researchers in Stanford's list of the top 2% most-cited scientists

## TEACHING & LEARNING

### Doctorate in Engineering

A new three-year research doctorate to train researchers in key areas for the country's scientific and technological development. fi.ort.edu.uy/novedades/la-facultad-de-ingenieria-lanza-un-doctorad...

### Innovation with real organizations

Students developed 19 projects with external organizations featured in the Yearbook, from traceability for sustainable wine (INAVI) to SIGIBREM, a sea search-and-rescue incident system for the National Navy.

## RESEARCH & INNOVATION

### A larger research portfolio

24 projects were started or approved in 2025, funded by ANII, INEFOP, ANDE, the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB), UNICEF, the European Union (EU), Erasmus+, Middlebury College and the University of Valencia, among others.

### Synthetic biology for sustainable development

FLAVO-GREEN, led by the National Biotechnology Centre of Spain's National Research Council (CNB-CSIC) and selected by LINCGlobal, combines synthetic biology, biodiversity conservation and traditional knowledge; ORT co-ordinates in Latin America (Dr. Cecilia Ortiz). fi.ort.edu.uy/novedades/proyecto-internacional-para-producir-flavon...

### Recognized research entity in Europe

In July 2025 the European Union recognized ORT as a research entity entitled to request access to confidential statistical microdata, including Eurostat's, for scientific purposes; this is a key requirement to join Horizon Europe research consortia. ORT was also accepted into the GEMINAE network of UNITA – Universitas Montium, an Erasmus+ European University alliance. ort.edu.uy/novedades/la-universidad-ort-uruguay-fue-reconocida-por-...

### Research excellence

Fernando Paganini and Sergio Yovine were included in Stanford University's ranking of the top 2% most-cited scientists; 54 academics are active members of the National Researchers System (SNI).

### Biotechnology and national policy

ORT presented the potential of national biotechnology to the Senate, and its Biotechnology Department led the third Foro Biotech (28 October, LATU Innovation Park) with more than 250 attendees, declared of interest by the Ministry of Education and Culture. fi.ort.edu.uy/novedades/ort-presento-en-el-senado-el-potencial-de-l...

## CAMPUS OPERATIONS

### New Business School building

Opened in November 2025 at Luis de la Torre and Bulevar España (Pocitos), the building has about 4,000 m² over two basement levels, a ground floor and four upper floors, for postgraduate and executive education with modern classrooms and spaces designed for collaborative learning. facs.ort.edu.uy/novedades/nuevo-edificio-de-la-escuela-de-negocios-...

**38 course offerings linked to SDG 9 in 2025**

- Tecnología industrial 1 (4053) (Design)
- Tecnología industrial 2 (4057) (Design)
- Temas avanzados Biotecnología (Engineering)
- Introducción a la Biotecnología (Engineering)
- Biotecnología de microorganismos y biología sintética (Engineering)
- Nanobiotecnología (Engineering)
- Innovación Social (Management)
- Biotecnología de algas (Engineering)
- Diseño industrial 2 (4058) (Design)

# Research capacity doubled





Fernando Paganini and Sergio Yovine, included in Stanford University's list of the world's top 2% most-cited scientists.

In 2025 ORT started or obtained approval for 24 research and innovation projects, twice as many as in 2024. Funders included the National Agency for Research and Innovation (ANII), the National Institute of Employment and Vocational Training (INEFOP), the National Development Agency (ANDE), the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB), UNICEF, the European Union, Erasmus+, Middlebury College and the University of Valencia.

The university strengthened its research infrastructure with a Zetasizer Ultra, acquired through ANII's Scientific Equipment Programme and described as unprecedented in Uruguay and the region, and launched a three-year Doctorate in Engineering in artificial intelligence, theoretical computing, biotechnology, quantum computing, software engineering and applied mathematics. In July the European Union recognized ORT as a research entity entitled to access confidential statistical microdata, a requirement for joining Horizon Europe consortia.

Recognition followed. Fernando Paganini and Sergio Yovine were included in Stanford University's ranking of the top 2% most-cited scientists; Paganini was named Distinguished Engineer 2025 by the Association of Engineers of Uruguay; and Dean Eduardo Mangarelli joined the National Academy of Engineering. Faculty published in journals such as IEEE Transactions on Industrial Informatics and Econometrica, and had a paper accepted in Research Policy.

The Biotechnology Department led the third Foro Biotech at the LATU Innovation Park on 28 October, with more than 250 attendees, and presented the potential of national biotechnology to the Senate.

## SELECTED 2025 PUBLICATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS BY ORT FACULTY


1. Gelabert, L., Pereyra, M., & Roldán, F. (2025). Public support prevalence and innovation behavior. Uruguay 2007-2015.
2. Kannan, S., & Gambetta, N. (2025). Technology-driven sustainability in small and medium-sized enterprises: A systematic literature review. Journal of Small Business Strategy, 35(1), 129-157.
3. Gambetta, N., Compiani, E., González, D., & Topolansky, E. (2025, 6 de noviembre). From knowledge to impact: University innovation centers as drivers of SDG-Aligned entrepreneurship. [Presentación de artículo]. 15 Encuentro PRME LAC, Medellín, Colombia.
4. Ripoll, M., Iturralde, M., Galindo Rodríguez, G. R., Soriano, N., Orrego, A. H., Gallego, M., Dimartino, S., López-Gallego, F., & Betancor, L. (2025, 29 de junio - 3 de julio). Novel strategies for gluconobacter biocatalyst immobilization. [Presentación de artículo]. 17th International Symposium on Biocatalysis and Biotransformations (Biotrans 2025), Basilea, Suiza.
5. Matalonga, S., Amalfitano, D., Solari, M., Rossa Hauck, J. C., & Horta Travassos, G. (2025). Testing context-aware software systems from the voices of the automotive industry. IEEE Transactions on Industrial Informatics, 21(5), 3705-3716.
6. Delgado, A., Calegari, D., Espino, C., & Ribero, N. (2025). Predictive process monitoring for collaborative business processes: Concepts and application. Discover Analytics, 3(1), 30 p.



Charlotte de Grünberg Scholarship 2025 award ceremony.

10 REDUCED INEQUALITIES

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOAL 10

# Reduced Inequalities

ORT is widening who reaches and succeeds at university: more students from public schools and from the interior, scholarships that consider socioeconomic context, and projects for migrants and people with disabilities.

**31.9%**

of new undergraduates from public high schools (27.9% in 2024)

**28.4%**

from outside Montevideo (25.6% in 2024)

**6**

student projects tackling barriers faced by migrants

## TEACHING & LEARNING

### Broader access

Of 1,562 new undergraduates in 2025, 498 came from public high schools (31.9%) and 443 from the interior of the country (28.4%), both higher than in 2024.

### Migration as a learning challenge

In the course Contemporary Migration Processes, International Studies students designed projects with the Ministry of Education and Culture, Municipio B, the International Organization for Migration (IOM), the NGO Manos Veneguayas and BuscoJobs: faster degree revalidation and an employability platform for Cuban migrants, an app with an AI assistant to digitize document legalization, alerts against fraudulent job offers targeting Dominican women to prevent trafficking, housing support for newly arrived migrants and academic levelling for Venezuelan children. facs.ort.edu.uy/novedades/estudiantes-disenian-soluciones-a-los-des...

### Non-discrimination in lifelong learning

ORT's Inclusive Access to Lifelong Learning Policy (Document No. 1462), in place since 2025, guarantees access to its open lectures, seminars, workshops and courses regardless of ethnicity, religion, disability, immigration status or gender, and promotes physical accessibility. ort.edu.uy/reglamentos/1462.pdf

### Inclusion in the curriculum

International Human Rights, Human Rights and Armed Conflicts, Contemporary Migration Processes, Global Civil Society, and inclusive design in Interfaces and Ergonomics.

## RESEARCH & INNOVATION

### Accessible learning with AI

ELdeS, an AI app to learn Uruguayan Sign Language (LSU) developed by Architecture graduate Martín Curzio, won the Innovation category of the Global EdTech Startup Awards among 8,000+ startups from 135 countries.

### Urban inclusion

After Montevideo's Departmental Board banned hostile architecture on 27 March 2025, prohibiting sharp elements on fences and façades that endanger people, the School of Architecture analysed the decree and the alternatives for inclusive urban design, noting that such elements can aggravate the situation of people without a home. fa.ort.edu.uy/novedades/arquitectura-hostil-en-montevideo-es-prohib...

## COMMUNITY & PARTNERSHIPS

### Integration of young migrants

International Studies graduate Agostina Colla received USD 10,000 from Projects for Peace 2025, one of 125 projects selected worldwide, for "Otra Orilla: Empezar de 0", a visual-novel video game in which players guide a young migrant through a school year in Uruguay to build empathy and integration. ort.edu.uy/novedades/graduada-de-la-universidad-ort-uruguay-gana-be...

### Opportunities for young people

Young people from the Salir Adelante project took part in a cybersecurity masterclass at the Faculty of Engineering. fi.ort.edu.uy/novedades/jovenes-del-proyecto-salir-adelante-partici...

### Accessibility and LSU

Interior Design graduate Darío Fernández shared his experience of accessibility and LSU at graduation; author Nausicaa Palomeque was recognized for her commitment to accessible literature. fa.ort.edu.uy/novedades/entrevista-al-lic-dis-int-dario-fernandez-l...

**28 course offerings linked to SDG 10 in 2025**

- Procesos Migratorios Contemporáneos (Management)
- Planificación de eventos, patrocinio y mecenazgo (Communication)
- Fundamentos, destinatarios y metodología de la formación (Education)
- La Sociedad Civil Global en la Era de las Redes (Management)
- Human Rights and Armed Conflicts (Management)
- Diseño de persuasión 1 (4106) Diseño de persuasión 2 (4102) (Design)
- Diseño de Interfaces (Design)
- Interfaces digitales (7397) (Design)
- Recursos Humanos (Management)

# Designing solutions with and for migrants




Arena Emprendedora, 22nd edition: an entrepreneurship programme for local and migrant women, with INEFOP.

Uruguay has received growing numbers of migrants from Venezuela, Cuba and the Dominican Republic. In the course Contemporary Migration Processes, taught by Andrés Rosales, International Studies students worked with the Ministry of Education and Culture, Municipio B of Montevideo, the International Organization for Migration (IOM), the NGO Manos Veneguayas and the platform BuscoJobs. The projects, presented at a fair in June, proposed faster revalidation of degrees and an employability platform for Cuban migrants; an app with an AI assistant to digitize the legalization of documents; alerts against fraudulent job offers targeting Dominican women to prevent trafficking; housing support for newly arrived migrants; and an academic levelling programme for Venezuelan children.

International Studies graduate Agostina Colla received USD 10,000 from Projects for Peace, one of 125 projects selected worldwide, to develop “Otra Orilla: Empezar de 0”, a visual-novel video game in which players guide a young migrant through a school year in Uruguay, tutored by Sabrina Bianchi.

Inclusion also means accessibility. ELdeS, an AI app to learn Uruguayan Sign Language developed by Architecture graduate Martín Curzio, won the Innovation category of the Global EdTech Startup Awards among more than 8,000 startups from 135 countries. And in a year in which new undergraduates from public high schools rose to 31.9%, research by Santiago Acerenza and Néstor Gandelman measured how neighbourhoods affect the human capital of young people in Montevideo.

## SELECTED 2025 PUBLICATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS BY ORT FACULTY

1. Acerenza, S., Gandelman, N., & Misail, D. (2025). Neighborhood impacts on human capital accumulation of adolescents and young adults in Montevideo. Regional Science and Urban Economics, 111, 14 p.
2. Questa Torterolo, M., Cabrera, C., & Fajardo Puentes, C. (2025). A case of teaching in multigrade classrooms in Uruguay: challenges and opportunities for learning and teaching in inclusive environments. International Journal of Educational Research, 131, 11 p.
3. Questa Torterolo, M., & Tejera, A. (2025, 3-4 de julio). Autopercepción de competencias digitales docentes y prácticas pedagógicas inclusivas en la formación inicial en Uruguay. [Presentación de artículo]. IV Congreso Internacional de la Red Age “Educación y Gestión de Calidad para el Desarrollo Sostenible”, Carapeguá, Paraguay.
4. Aboal, D., Lanzilotta, B., Pereyra, M., & Queraltó, M. P. (2025). Regional development and convergence clubs in Uruguay. Economía Aplicada, 27(3), 351-381.









Re-imagining Plaza Canadá exhibition at the National Museum of Visual Arts (MNAV), September 2025.

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOAL 11

# Sustainable Cities and Communities

Architecture, landscape and urban research at ORT engage directly with Montevideo and other Uruguayan cities: public space, social housing, timber construction and heritage.

**3**
universities in the Re-imagining Plaza Canadá collaboration

**17**
courses mapped to SDG 11

**1st**
place at Arqatón 2025, the architecture ideas marathon

## TEACHING & LEARNING

### Re-imagining Plaza Canadá

Convened by the Embassy of Canada, Architecture students from Carleton University, Universidad de la República and ORT redesigned the green space on Rambla Wilson. At ORT, 36 teams of three students in Project 3 produced 36 models and drawing sets in five weeks, exhibited without rankings at the National Museum of Visual Arts (MNAV) from 1 September 2025, with Ambassador Carmen Sorger and architect Carlos Ott. fa.ort.edu.uy/novedades/re-imaging-plaza-canada-colaboracion-interu...

### Sustainable housing

Architecture students visited +Colonia and designed housing as part of sustainable innovation coursework. fa.ort.edu.uy/novedades/innovacion-sostenible-estudiantes-de-la-car...

### Cities in the curriculum

Environmental Management (environmental authorization and the National Sustainable Cities Strategy), Landscape Workshop 3 and the Diploma in Sustainable Architecture.

## RESEARCH & INNOVATION

### Social housing

Dr. Arch. Guillermo Lockhart presented research on the El Resorte housing co-operative at the II Ibero-American Meeting on Sustainable Social Housing (São Paulo), and ORT promoted the II Ibero-American Congress on Sustainable Social Housing. fa.ort.edu.uy/novedades/ort-impulsa-el-ii-congreso-iberoamericano-s...

### Learning environments

An ANII-funded project with ANEP and Universidad de la República on environmental comfort in the design of learning spaces (Dr. Paula Cardellino).

### Smart cities

Carlos López's paper on neural networks for super-resolution of digital elevation models was recognized as one of the best at the VIII Ibero-American Congress of Smart Cities.

### Timber construction

Dr. Laura Moya, coordinator of the Master in Timber Building, presented the Uruguayan experience at the Sustainable Cities Araucanía 2025 summit (Chile). fa.ort.edu.uy/novedades/por-que-la-madera-es-el-material-de-construu...

## COMMUNITY & PARTNERSHIPS

### Public talks

Frans de Witte, Managing Partner of MVRDV, gave the lecture "Housing, city and climate" at Campus Pocitos on 2 September, on designing housing around climate, density and embodied carbon; José Luis Infanzón presented the Madrid Nuevo Norte urban regeneration project. fa.ort.edu.uy/novedades/vivienda-ciudad-clima-mirada-arq-frans-de-w...

### Recognition

Students won Arqatón 2025 (La Curva y La Luz) and third prize (+Bosque); graduates were featured by ArchDaily for an intervention in Sinergia Faro, the first LEED Platinum building in Uruguay.

**17 course offerings linked to SDG 11 in 2025**

- Arquitecturas empresariales (Engineering)
- ARQUITECTURA Y CLIMA (Architecture)
- Sociedad e instituciones (Education)
- Gestión Ambiental (Architecture)
- Representación expresiva 1 (4034) (Design)
- Proyecto 2- Videoarte (7333) (Design)
- Management y contexto global (Management)
- Energías Renovables (Architecture)
- Taller 3 (Architecture)

# Rethinking public space on the Rambla




La Curva y La Luz, by Architecture students Matilde Alcina and Agustín Álvarez, first prize at Arqatón 2025.

Plaza Canadá sits where Bulevar Artigas meets the Rambla in Punta Carretas, one of Montevideo's most visible public spaces. Convened by the Embassy of Canada, the Faculties of Architecture of Carleton University, Universidad de la República and ORT worked in parallel to reimagine it, integrating formal, functional and symbolic components of the urban landscape and the dialogue between natural and built landscape.

At ORT, Project 3 students worked for five weeks in 36 teams of three, producing 36 models and sets of drawings. The results opened on 1 September 2025 at the National Museum of Visual Arts (MNAV), exhibited without rankings, with Ambassador Carmen Sorger, architect Carlos Ott, the Montevideo City Council's Director of Public Spaces and Buildings and the Dean of ORT's School of Architecture.

Research supports sustainable housing and construction. Faculty published in VLC Arquitectura on in-between space in Uruguay's cooperative housing, and the timber research group led by Dr. Laura Moya, coordinator of the Master in Timber Building, published comparative studies of laminated timber products and connections; Dr. Moya also presented the Uruguayan experience in timber construction at the Sustainable Cities Araucanía 2025 summit in Chile.

Students engaged with the city in competitions: Matilde Alcina and Agustín Álvarez won Arqatón 2025 at the Construction Fair with La Curva y La Luz, and Landscaping students transformed spaces at Montevideo Shopping in Mini Patio en el Shopping.

## SELECTED 2025 PUBLICATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS BY ORT FACULTY

1. Puppo, M. E., & Fernández Villalobos, N. (2025). Espacio intermedio y arquitectura del encuentro en la vivienda cooperativa en Uruguay. In-between space and the architecture of encounter in cooperative housing in Uruguay. VLC Arquitectura, 12(2), 33-62.
2. Bruzzone, G., Godoy, D., Arrejuría, S., Quagliotti, S., Böthig, S., & Moya, L. (2025). Estudio comparativo de productos de madera laminada unidos con distintos tipos de clavijas. Maderas: Ciencia y Tecnología, 27, 24 p.
3. Bruzzone, G.R., Godoy, D., Arrejuría, S., Passarella, D., & Moya, L. (2025). Load-bearing capacity of pine timber connections using different types of connectors. En Structures and Architecture - Proceedings of the 6th International Conference on Structures and Architecture (ICSA 2025) (pp. 1771-1778). Taylor & Francis Group.
4. Woolner, P., Cardellino, P., & Tapaninen, R. (2025, 9-12 de setiembre). Open and flexible learning spaces: Complex responses to diverse contexts or a global trend? [Presentación de artículo]. European Conference on Educational Research (ECER 2025), Belgrado, República de Serbia.
5. Locatelli, F., Nesmachnow, S., & López Vázquez, C. (2025, 10-12 de noviembre). A neural network approach for super-resolution of a digital elevation model. [Presentación de artículo]. ICSC-CITIES 2025. VIII Ibero-American Congress of Smart Cities, Puebla de Zaragoza, México.



Student design projects on display at the School of Design, 2025.

12 RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOAL 12

# Responsible Consumption and Production

Through ORT Recicla, the university measures and manages its waste and channels it into partnerships with social and environmental value. In 2025 recycling grew faster than waste generation, and circular design was present across teaching.

**14.2 t**

recycled in 2025, +10.1% on 2024

**18.3%**

recycling rate (17.1% in 2024)

**479**

IT units given a second life through Antel Integra

## TEACHING & LEARNING

### Circular design

Industrial Design 3 and 5 (circular economy, ecodesign), Industrial Technology 1 and 2 (life-cycle analysis), Textile Design 3 (slow fashion), Clothing Design 3 (upcycling of textile waste) and the Recycling Workshop in Interior Design.

### Student work

Projects such as Silowear (clothing from rural waste) and Puno x Ound (ethical fashion); an ORT team won the audiovisual category of Rediseña 2025, promoting recycling in fashion. fd.ort.edu.uy/novedades/silowear-diseno-que-transforma-residuos-rur...

### Youth ideas

The Business Challenge 2025 winner, ReConstruyo, is a marketplace for reusing construction-material waste. facs.ort.edu.uy/novedades/ganadores-2025-del-business-challenge

## CAMPUS OPERATIONS

### ORT Recicla 2025

In 2025 the university generated 77.6 tonnes of waste (+2.9%), of which 14.2 tonnes were recycled (+10.1%) and 63.4 tonnes went to final disposal. The recycling rate rose from 17.1% to 18.3%.

### Partners with social value

10.7 t of paper and cardboard, managed by Fabitech and donated to Repapel for educational programmes in public schools; 619 kg of PET bottles, collected by Taym and processed by Ecopet into food-grade recycled resin; 2.88 t of waste electrical and electronic equipment (WEEE), managed by Werba.

### Extending product life

ORT donated 479 IT units (233 monitors, 246 CPUs) to Antel Integra, which refurbishes them with free software and redistributes them, reducing electronic waste. ort.edu.uy/novedades/ort-dona-equipos-informaticos-a-proyecto-antel...

### Tapitero

A new collector invites students and staff to deposit plastic bottle caps; when it is full, a sustainable kit with reusable alternatives to single-use items is raffled among participants. ort.edu.uy/novedades/tapitero-reciclaje-tapitas-ort

### Responsible procurement

The university applies environmental criteria to suppliers and subcontracted services and has reduced paper use.

## COMMUNITY & PARTNERSHIPS

### Universities for Sustainability Network

On 1 December 2025 ORT became a founding member of the Red de Universidades por la Sostenibilidad (UNIS), the first inter-institutional alliance in Uruguay on sustainability and the circular economy in higher education, together with CLAEH, Universidad Católica del Uruguay, Universidad de la Empresa, Universidad de Montevideo and the Technological University (UTEC); Vice-Rector Dr. Pablo Landoni signed the founding document. ort.edu.uy/novedades/red-de-universidades-por-la-sostenibilidad

### National circular economy standards

The Faculty of Engineering joined the Circular Economy Technical Committee of the Uruguayan Institute of Technical Standards (UNIT), represented by Inés Tiscornia; the committee has three published standards and two in progress. fi.ort.edu.uy/novedades/la-facultad-de-ingenieria-integra-al-comite...

### Environmental education

ORT supported Repapel's environmental education conferences for schools. ort.edu.uy/novedades//ort-impulsa-la-educacion-ambiental-en-las-jor...

**36 course offerings linked to SDG 12 in 2025**

- Taller de reciclaje (Architecture)
- Diseño de indumentaria 3 (4077) (Design)
- Representación expresiva 2 (4043) (Design)
- Biorremediación (Engineering)
- Planificación de eventos, patrocinio y mecenazgo (Communication)
- Políticas Públicas (Management)
- Diseño multimedia 2 (5137) (Design)
- Biotecnología de algas (Engineering)
- Diseño Editorial 3 (Design)

# ORT Recicla: measuring, recycling, partnering



Fashion Design student collections, 2025. Upcycling of textile waste and slow fashion are part of the Fashion Design curriculum.

ORT Recicla, the university's waste management programme started in 2017, measures every tonne leaving the campuses. In 2025 the university generated 77.6 tonnes of waste, 2.9% more than in 2024, but recycled 14.2 tonnes, an increase of 10.1%; the recycling rate rose from 17.1% to 18.3%, an improvement in the system's relative performance.

Each recycled stream creates social value. 10.7 tonnes of paper and cardboard, managed by Fabitech, were donated to Repapel, a civil organization with more than 20 years of work that turns them into recycled products and environmental education programmes for public schools. 619 kg of PET bottles, collected by Taym, were processed by Ecopet, the only plant in Uruguay that converts them into food-grade recycled resin. 2.88 tonnes of waste electrical and electronic equipment were managed by Werba.

Beyond recycling, ORT extended the life of 479 IT units, 233 monitors and 246 CPUs, donated to Antel Integra, which refurbishes equipment with free software for people in vulnerable contexts and received the Uruguay Circular Award in 2025. A new Tapitero collects plastic bottle caps and rewards participants with kits of reusable alternatives to single-use items.

The university also contributes to national standards and networks: the Faculty of Engineering joined the Circular Economy Technical Committee of the Uruguayan Institute of Technical Standards (UNIT), and on 1 December ORT co-founded the Universities for Sustainability Network (UNIS) with five other Uruguayan universities.

## SELECTED 2025 PUBLICATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS BY ORT FACULTY


1. Pirotti, F. D., Soriano, N., Ripoll, M., Domínguez de María, P., Barrow, C. J., & Betancor, L. (2025). Improving the sustainability of Gluconobacter oxydans L-Sorbose production using food waste media and recyclable resting cells. Sustainable Chemistry and Pharmacy, 46, 18 p.
2. Kannan, S., & Gambetta, N. (2025). Technology-driven sustainability in small and medium-sized enterprises: A systematic literature review. Journal of Small Business Strategy, 35(1), 129-157.
3. Núñez Laguna, I., Gambetta, N., & García Benau, M. A. (2025). Knowledge in the diversity-efficiency nexus: How board composition shapes sustainable resource use in emerging markets. Journal of Innovation & Knowledge, 11, 13 p.
4. Pirotti, F., Doeven, E. H., Butler, M. S., Betancor, L., & Barrow, C. J. (2025, 10-12 de noviembre). Turning L-sorbose Rare Sugar into Biosurfactants. [Presentación de póster]. AAOCS 2025 Conference – Fats & Oils: Food, Health, Industry & Innovation, Melbourne, Australia.



Inger Andersen, Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme, at ORT, 16 June 2025.

13 CLIMATE ACTION

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOAL 13

# Climate Action

ORT treats climate change as a professional responsibility. In 2025 it hosted the head of the United Nations Environment Programme, created a Sustainability Committee, ran a personal-carbon-footprint campaign and published research on climate policy.

**17**

courses mapped to SDG 13, including a full elective on Climate Change

**Q1**

journal article assessing climate policies for Uruguay

**Since 2004**

one tree planted for each ORT graduate

## TEACHING & LEARNING

### Climate in the curriculum

Climate Change (a full elective on climate science, carbon footprint and mitigation and adaptation), Global Europe (the European Green Deal), Global Trends in Taxation (green tax policy) and Sustainability and Climate Change with carbon footprint calculation in the Diploma in Sustainable Architecture.

### The EU and climate change

In its third year, the Jean Monnet Module Thinking Europe held a June webinar on climate change and the European Green Deal, alongside courses, a workshop and open lectures on Europe. facs.ort.edu.uy/novedades/la-union-europea-y-el-cambio-climatico

## RESEARCH & INNOVATION

### Climate policy for Uruguay

Francisco Rosas published "The assessment of climate change policies through a general equilibrium model: An application to Uruguay" in Energy Economics (Q1).

### Environmental risks and audit

Research presented at the 47th European Accounting Association Congress analysed how auditor and client characteristics shape key audit matters on environmental risks in sensitive industries.

### ESG and financial value

A project funded by the University of Valencia studies how ESG (environmental, social and governance) practices of B Corporations in Uruguay create financial value (Dr. Nicolás Gambetta).

## CAMPUS OPERATIONS

### Sustainability Committee

Created in September 2025 to guide, monitor and communicate sustainability across teaching, research, outreach and campus management, with representatives of every school and institute. ort.edu.uy/novedades/comite-de-sostenibilidad

### Personal carbon footprint campaign

Launched on 7 March 2025, the campaign uses wooden posters made in the university's industrial design lab, designed by an Interior Design graduate, with concrete actions such as walking or cycling and recycling paper, PET and electronic waste; it notes that the average person emits about 4 tonnes of $CO_2$ a year against a suggested 2 tonnes. Since 2004 a tree has been planted with Keren Kayemeth LeIsrael (KKL) for each graduate. ort.edu.uy/novedades/campana-para-reducir-la-huella-de-carbono-pers...

## COMMUNITY & PARTNERSHIPS

### Planetary crisis

Inger Andersen, Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), spoke at ORT on the planetary crisis and the role of professionals (16 June). facs.ort.edu.uy/novedades/crisis-planetaria-lider-global-llega-a-ur...

### NASA Space Apps Challenge

ORT sponsored the Uruguayan edition on 4–5 October, which gathers about 200 participants each year, with challenges on air quality, climate storytelling, sustainable cities, biodiversity monitoring and satellite imagery for marine conservation. ort.edu.uy/novedades/nasa-space-apps-challenge-uruguay-2025

**17 course offerings linked to SDG 13 in 2025**

- SOSTENIBILIDAD Y CAMBIO CLIMÁTICO (Architecture)
- Cambio Climático (Management)
- ARQUITECTURA Y CLIMA (Architecture)
- Europa Global (Management)
- DISEÑO Y CONSTRUCCIÓN SOSTENIBLE 1, 2 Y 3 (Architecture)
- Aspectos Ambientales en Ingeniería (Engineering)
- Tendencias globales en tributación (Management)
- ENERGÍAS RENOVABLES (Architecture)
- Arte contemporáneo (7114) (Design)

# A university-wide response to the climate crisis

**~4 t**
$CO_2$ emitted per person per year, on average, as communicated by the campaign

**2 t**
suggested personal target to help limit climate change

**1.8 t**
$CO_2$ avoided per tonne of PET recycled, according to the campaign

On 16 June Inger Andersen, Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and Under-Secretary-General of the United Nations, spoke at Campus Pocitos on "Planetary crisis: challenges and the role of professionals", before students, faculty and guests.

In September ORT created a Sustainability Committee including the Academic Vice-Rector, Dr. Pablo Landoni, and representatives of the Faculty of Engineering's environmental management area, the Schools of Management and Social Sciences, Communication, Design and Architecture, and the Institute of Education. Its mandate is to guide, monitor and communicate the university's sustainability initiatives in teaching, research, outreach and campus management.

In March the university launched a campaign on personal carbon footprints with wooden posters built in its industrial design laboratory. It explains that the average person emits about 4 tonnes of $CO_2$ a year, against a suggested 2 tonnes to limit climate change, and that recycling avoids about 1.5 tonnes of $CO_2$ per tonne of paper and 1.8 tonnes per tonne of PET. Since 2004 a tree has been planted with Keren Kayemeth LeIsrael (KKL) for each ORT graduate.

Research informs national policy: Francisco Rosas published in Energy Economics an assessment of climate change policies for Uruguay using a general-equilibrium model, and Rodrigo Lluberas studied the impact of natural disasters on household wealth. The Jean Monnet Module Thinking Europe held a webinar on the European Green Deal.

## SELECTED 2025 PUBLICATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS BY ORT FACULTY

1. Rosas, F. (2025). The assessment of climate change policies through a general equilibrium model: An application to Uruguay. Energy Economics, 142, 12 p.
2. Davies, J. B., & Lluberas, R. (2025, 8-9 de diciembre). The impact of natural disasters on wealth in the United States. [Presentación de artículo]. XXII RIDGE Forum. VII Workshop on Environmental Economics, Montevideo, Uruguay.
3. D'Agosti, N., & Danza, F. (2025, 28 de octubre). The impact of solar panel installation on electricity consumption and production: A firm´s perspective. [Presentación de artículo]. VII Workshop sobre Economía del Medio Ambiente y Cambio Climático, Buenos Aires, Argentina.




Enrique Latorres next to the seismological station at Uruguay's Artigas Antarctic Base, 2025.

14 LIFE BELOW WATER

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOAL 14

# Life Below Water

Uruguay's coast and its deep-sea frontier are a growing field for science and communication. ORT contributes through recognition of ocean exploration, technology for safety at sea and Antarctic research, and through actions that keep plastics and nutrients out of water bodies.

**619 kg**

of PET bottles recycled into food-grade resin in 2025

**1**

student-built system for sea search-and-rescue incidents

**1**

deep-sea science team recognized at ORT's 2025 Creativity and Innovation Awards

## RESEARCH & INNOVATION

### To Antarctica with sensors

Enrique Latorres, associate professor at the Faculty of Engineering, travelled with geologist Leda Sánchez to Uruguay's Artigas Antarctic Base to repair and upgrade the seismological station that is part of the national sensor network: they designed an insulated outdoor station for the sensor, installed temperature sensors at different depths and reinstalled the software of two Raspberry Pi-based sensors. fi.ort.edu.uy/novedades/a-la-antartida-con-sensores-una-mision-cien...

### Search and rescue at sea

Engineering students developed SIGIBREM, an incident-management system for maritime search and rescue for the National Navy of Uruguay.

### Keeping nutrients out of water

Algae-based treatment of industrial effluents (ANII María Viñas Fund) targets nitrogen and phosphorus, the main drivers of eutrophication in rivers and coastal waters.

## CAMPUS OPERATIONS

### Less plastic

619 kg of PET bottles were recycled through Taym and Ecopet, and the Tapitero collects plastic caps on campus. ort.edu.uy/novedades/tapitero-reciclaje-tapitas-ort

## COMMUNITY & PARTNERSHIPS

### Uruguay Sub 200

At the 2025 Creativity and Innovation Awards, the Schools of Communication and Design recognized the Uruguay Sub 200 team for advancing knowledge of Uruguay's deep sea.

### Marine challenges in hackathons

The NASA Space Apps Challenge 2025, sponsored by ORT, included challenges on satellite imagery for marine conservation. ort.edu.uy/novedades/nasa-space-apps-challenge-uruguay-2025

> **Teaching**
>
> No course in the 2025 curriculum mapping is primarily linked to SDG 14; related content appears in courses on water, effluents and environmental impact (see SDG 6 and SDG 12).

# From the Artigas Antarctic Base to the Atlantic coast



Uruguay's Artigas Antarctic Base on King George Island, where ORT's Enrique Latorres serviced the national seismological station in 2025.

Enrique Latorres, associate professor in the Faculty of Engineering's Chair of Computer Architecture and Operating Systems, travelled with his wife, geologist Leda Sánchez, to Uruguay's Artigas Antarctic Base to repair and upgrade the seismological station that is part of the national network of more than twenty active stations. Over a week they designed an outdoor station with an insulated niche to protect and orient the sensor, installed temperature sensors at different depths and reinstalled the operating system and software of two Raspberry Pi-based sensors, with the support of the base staff.

The sensors were acquired by the researchers or partly funded by projects of the Sectoral Commission for Scientific Research of Universidad de la República and the Basic Sciences Development Programme (PEDECIBA), and the data contribute to the Geophysical Observatory of Uruguay.

ORT researchers also co-authored a study in Science of the Total Environment linking international market trends, agricultural intensification and extreme sedimentation rates in a transboundary South American coastal lagoon, evidence of how land use affects coastal ecosystems.

At the 2025 Creativity and Innovation Awards on 11 December, the Schools of Communication and Design recognized the Uruguay Sub 200 team for expanding knowledge of the deep Uruguayan sea.

## SELECTED 2025 PUBLICATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS BY ORT FACULTY

1. Lima Ferreira, P., Etchevers, I., Cuña Rodriguez, C., Velázquez, P., González, L., Leão Fernandes, E. H., Lopes Leães Pinho, G., & García Rodríguez, F. (2025). Links between international market trends, agricultural intensification and extreme sedimentation rates in a transboundary South American coastal lagoon. Science of the Total Environment, 975, 11 p.

2. Umpiérrez Failache, M., Rahim, A. A., Betancor, L., & Ghoshal, S. (2025). Uptake and transformation of Arsenic by Acidomyces acidophilus isolated from acidic mine tailings and its toxigenic implications. Environmental Toxicology and Chemistry, 12 p.



Dr. Cecilia Ortiz, Faculty of Engineering, who co-ordinates FLAVO-GREEN in Latin America.

15 LIFE ON LAND

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOAL 15

# Life on Land

Landscape architecture, biotechnology and biology courses at ORT foster knowledge of native ecosystems and biodiversity, and respond to threats such as the red palm weevil.

**13**

courses mapped to SDG 15

**1**

app mapping the spread of the red palm weevil

**2**

international landscape publications featuring ORT faculty work

## TEACHING & LEARNING

### Ecosystems in the curriculum

Biology (ecology, ecosystems, human impact and conservation), Environmental Aspects in Engineering (natural capital), Landscape Workshop 3 (ecological dynamics and plant selection) and Contemporary Art (art, ecology and the climate crisis).

### Native landscapes

Landscaping students and graduates created Reflejo nativo, first prize at Mini Patio en el Shopping 2025, and the native-plant garden Campo Sucio. fa.ort.edu.uy/novedades/paisajismo-y-plantas-nativas-en-museos-en-l...

## RESEARCH & INNOVATION

### Biodiversity and traditional knowledge

FLAVO-GREEN combines synthetic biology with the conservation of Amazonian biodiversity and the traditional knowledge of indigenous communities. fi.ort.edu.uy/novedades/proyecto-internacional-para-producir-flavon...

### Red palm weevil

Systems Engineering student Emilia Lasaga built in one week an interactive map that combines citizen reports and AI-generated summaries to track the red palm weevil across Uruguay's departments, while the School of Architecture warned about the environmental emergency affecting palms in Montevideo and Canelones. fi.ort.edu.uy/novedades/una-app-que-mapea-el-avance-del-picudo-rojo

## COMMUNITY & PARTNERSHIPS

### Landscape architecture in international publications

Mariposas Salvajes by Paula Rial was included in a publication of IFLA Americas; Amalia Robredo's garden La Secreta was featured in Phaidon's The Contemporary Garden. fa.ort.edu.uy/novedades/mariposas-salvajes-proyecto-de-la-arq-psj-p...

### Latin American landscape seminar

ORT hosted a seminar with landscape architects from Mexico, Chile and Uruguay. fa.ort.edu.uy/novedades/seminario-de-paisajismo-latinoamericano-mir...

**13 course offerings linked to SDG 15 in 2025**

- Biología (Engineering)
- Taller 3 (Architecture)
- Arte contemporáneo (7114) (Design)
- Biorremediación (Engineering)
- Medio Ambiente, Desarrollo y Negociación Internacional (Management)
- Media Lab (Communication)
- Tendencias del diseño contemporáneo (4096) (Design)
- Aspectos Ambientales en Ingeniería (Engineering)
- Comercio y Desarrollo Agrícola (Management)

# Native landscapes and biological solutions




Lecture “Pensar desde el paisaje” at the School of Architecture, 2025.

Landscape architecture at ORT promotes native plants and ecological design. In the 2025 edition of Mini Patio en el Shopping, organized with Montevideo Shopping for its 40th anniversary, Landscaping students Lucía Gamboa, María Sultanova and Christian De Furia won first prize with Reflejo nativo, and all five proposals were built in the shopping centre’s corridors. Faculty work reached international publications: Paula Rial’s Mariposas Salvajes in a publication of IFLA Americas and Amalia Robredo’s garden La Secreta in Phaidon’s The Contemporary Garden.

When the red palm weevil began killing palms in Montevideo and Canelones, Systems Engineering student Emilia Lasaga built in one week an interactive map that combines citizen reports and AI-generated summaries to follow the pest by department, and the School of Architecture warned about the threat to Uruguay’s landscapes.

Biotechnology offers alternatives to chemical pesticides: ORT researchers co-authored studies in Pest Management Science and Journal of Fungi on the fungus Beauveria bassiana as a biological control agent against insect pests. Through FLAVO-GREEN, led by Spain’s National Biotechnology Centre, ORT co-ordinates in Latin America a project combining synthetic biology with the conservation of Amazonian biodiversity and the traditional knowledge of indigenous communities.

## SELECTED 2025 PUBLICATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS BY ORT FACULTY

1. Oberti, H., Sessa, L., Van Roosmalen, E., De Bekkes, C., Seidl, M. F., Sanchez Vallet, A., & Abreo, E. (2025). From omics to enhanced fungal virulence: Overexpression of a putative secreted protein improves Beauveria bassiana biocontrol potential against the insect pest Piezodorus guildinii. Pest Management Science.
2. Lima Ferreira, P., Etchevers, I., Cuña Rodriguez, C., Velázquez, P., González, L., Leão Fernandes, E. H., Lopes Leães Pinho, G., & García Rodríguez, F. (2025). Links between international market trends, agricultural intensification and extreme sedimentation rates in a transboundary South American coastal lagoon. Science of the Total Environment, 975, 11 p.
3. Preisegger, L., Flecha, J. C., Ghilini, F., Espin Sánchez, D., Prieto, E., Oberti, H., Abreo, E., Huarte Bonnet, C., Pedrini, N., & Mannino, M. C. (2025). Visualizing oral infection dynamics of beauveria bassiana in the gut of tribolium castaneum. Journal of Fungi, 11(2), 19 p.



Public lecture at Universidad ORT Uruguay, 2025.

16 PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOAL 16

# Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions

ORT contributes to safer communities and stronger institutions through research on crime and illegal markets, education for democracy and the rule of law, ethics across the curriculum and award-winning investigative journalism by its graduates.

**3**

new research projects on crime, violence and business

**56**

courses mapped to SDG 16 (ethics, governance, human rights)

**3rd**

year of Euromodelo Joven with the EU Delegation

## TEACHING & LEARNING

### Euromodelo Joven 2025

For the third year, ORT co-organized this EU leadership programme with the Delegation of the European Union: 70 places for students from all universities in Uruguay, with training, debates and a two-day simulation of the European Parliament ending at the Legislative Palace in Montevideo. facs.ort.edu.uy/novedades/lanzamiento-del-euromodelo-2025

### Ethics and governance

Ethics workshops for accountants, Corporate Governance, Sustainability and Risk Management, Ethics, Legislation and Professional Communication in Engineering, and the II Symposium on Information Ethics on AI. fc.ort.edu.uy/novedades/ii-simposio-de-tica-de-la-informacion-desaf...

### Jean Monnet Module

The EU-funded Jean Monnet Module Thinking Europe closed three years of activity in November 2025, after a year of courses, a European cultures workshop, Europe Day, webinars on climate and on democracy and populism, and five open lectures. facs.ort.edu.uy/novedades/cierre-del-modulo-jean-monnet

## RESEARCH & INNOVATION

### Crime and business dynamics

Two projects funded by the ANII Citizen Security Fund study how crime affects firm creation and closure and local employment (Dr. Marcos Segantini), and the operational dynamics of drug micro-trafficking, violence and criminal groups in Montevideo (Dr. Gonzalo Croci). A third, funded by the IDB, examines crime and entrepreneurship (Dr. Santiago Acerenza). facs.ort.edu.uy/novedades/anii-aprobo-dos-proyectos-de-investigacio...

### Democracy and populism

Research and debate on the democracies of Argentina and Uruguay and on European and Latin American populisms. facs.ort.edu.uy/novedades/miradas-cruzadas-sobre-los-populismos-eur...

## COMMUNITY & PARTNERSHIPS

### Investigative journalism

Graduate and lecturer Tomer Urwicz and Carolina Delisa (El Observador) won the Marcelo Jelen National Written Press Award for an investigation into the sexual exploitation of girls in a state care home in Rivera, which documented at least nine cases and led to a parliamentary interpellation and a review by the National Human Rights Institution. Martín Tocar and Delisa also won the Bartolomé Hidalgo Award for chronicle and investigative journalism. fc.ort.edu.uy/novedades/docente-y-graduado-de-la-universidad-ort-ur...

### Institutional cooperation

ORT and the MERCOSUR Secretariat agreed to promote institutional cooperation; faculty serve as international experts in arbitration (Latin American Centre for Arbitration and Mediation, LATCAM). facs.ort.edu.uy/novedades/ort-y-la-secretaria-del-mercosur-impulsan...

### Expert advice to public bodies

Renato Opertti, adviser on international projects at the Institute of Education, served as evaluator for Chile's National Council of Education, assessing research proposals aimed at improving learning. Mariela Questa-Torterolo joined the Evaluation and Monitoring Committee of the Education Sector Fund "Inclusión Digital" of ANII and Fundación Ceibal, which co-ordinates the technical evaluation of proposals, and ANII's selection committee for links with Uruguayan scientists abroad. ie.ort.edu.uy/novedades/opertti-participo-como-evaluador-de-proyect...

### Memory and human rights

The Department of Jewish Studies commemorated the International Holocaust Remembrance Day.

**56 course offerings linked to SDG 16 in 2025**

- Ética y Relaciones con la prensa (Communication)
- Org. industrial y regulación (Engineering)
- Ética, legislación y comunicación profesional (Engineering)
- Taller de ética y sostenibilidad empresaria (Management)
- Taller de Ética (Management)
- Biotecnología de microorganismos y biología sintética (Engineering)
- Gestión y gobernanza de la seguridad de la información (Engineering)
- CERTIFICACIONES ENERGÉTICAS EN EDIFCIOS (Architecture)
- Gen c/renovables y redes int. (Engineering)

# Understanding crime to build safer communities

**3**
new research projects on crime, violence and business in 2025

**7**
2025 publications on crime, justice, democracy and human rights

**70**
places in Euromodelo Joven 2025 for students across Uruguay

Public security is a major public concern in Uruguay, and in 2025 the School of Management and Social Sciences consolidated a research line on crime and institutions. Two projects funded by the ANII Citizen Security Fund began: one, led by Dr. Marcos Segantini, measures how crime affects the creation and closure of firms and local employment; the other, led by Dr. Gonzalo Croci, applies crime-script analysis to the operational dynamics of drug micro-trafficking, violence and criminal groups in Montevideo. A third project, funded by the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB), studies the causal relationship between crime and entrepreneurship.

Dr. Croci published in the Journal of Criminal Justice on the role of the criminal justice system in explaining homicide rates, in the International Journal of Comparative and Applied Criminal Justice on effectiveness and corruption in Latin American justice systems, and in the Palgrave Handbook of Criminology and the Global South on the spread of organised crime violence.

Research on democracy and human rights included studies in Democratization on autocracy promotion in Venezuela and Nicaragua, a report by Inés Pousadela on reforming the UN Human Rights Council, and an analysis of Montevideo's Marcha del Silencio as collective memory.

Education for democracy continued with Euromodelo Joven, which offered 70 places to students from all Uruguayan universities to simulate the European Parliament, ending at the Legislative Palace.

## SELECTED 2025 PUBLICATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS BY ORT FACULTY


1. Croci, G., & Gómez, J. (2025). Breaking the cycle: The role of the criminal justice system in understanding homicide rates. Journal of Criminal Justice, 99, 14 p.
2. Croci, G. (2025). Effectiveness and corruption in the criminal justice system of Latin America: An overview. International Journal of Comparative and Applied Criminal Justice, 49(1), 81-105.
3. Croci, G., Dammert, L., & Larroca, M. (2025). From safe havens to hotspots: The spread of organised crime violence in Latin America. En R. Pessoa Cavalcanti, D. S. Fonseca, V. Vegh Weis, K. Carrington, R. Hogg, & J. Scott (Eds.), The palgrave handbook of criminology and the global south (pp. 1-20). Palgrave Macmillan.
4. Croci, G., Larroca, M., & Gómez, J. (2025). Las cambiantes dinámicas del crimen organizado en América Latina (Documento de Investigación nro. 150). Universidad ORT Uruguay.
5. Palestini, S., Quispe, L., & Telias, D. (2025). Autocracy promotion in the Americas? Scrutinizing the effect of China and Russia on democracy protection in Venezuela and Nicaragua. Democratization, 24 p.
6. King, S., & Pousadela, I. M. (2025). The UN human rights council: Challenges and opportunities for reform (ENSURED Research Report nro. 8). Global Public Policy Institute (GPPi).
7. Moreno Barreneche, S. (2025). La marcha del silencio en Uruguay: abordaje semiótico de una práctica ritualizada por la memoria colectiva. América Latina Hoy, 95, 25 p.



Participants of the IX IEEE World Engineering Education Conference (EDUNINE 2025), hosted by ORT.

17 PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOAL 17

# Partnerships for the Goals

Partnerships multiply ORT's impact. The university works with more than 230 universities and organizations in 38 countries, with government, multilateral agencies and civil society, and it reports publicly on its progress towards every SDG.

**18**

new international agreements signed in 2025

**230+**

partner universities and organizations in 38 countries

**331**

students in international mobility (incoming and outgoing)

## TEACHING & LEARNING

### International mobility

128 international students took courses at ORT and 50 more came through the University Studies Abroad Consortium (USAC); 153 ORT students studied abroad.

### Education for the SDGs

Courses such as Communication for Impact, Human Development and Sustainability (SDGs and the 2030 Agenda) and the Final Integrative Project in Design, which requires justifying projects against SDG targets.

### A university-wide commitment to SDG education

The Sustainability Committee created in 2025 brings together representatives of all five schools and the Institute of Education to strengthen the integration of sustainability and the SDGs into undergraduate and postgraduate education, research, outreach and institutional management, covering environmental management, climate change, the circular economy, sustainable design, social responsibility, governance and inclusion; Sustainable Campus initiatives connect this education with everyday campus life. ort.edu.uy/novedades/comite-de-sostenibilidad

### Outreach education with the community

With ReachingU Foundation, ORT awarded 40 fully funded scholarships for teachers and school leaders from vulnerable communities in a certificate on transformational leadership; 36 completed it. ie.ort.edu.uy/novedades/liderar-para-transformar

## RESEARCH & INNOVATION

### Research networks

ORT co-ordinates FLAVO-GREEN in Latin America with Spain's CSIC, and the Institute of Education is the Uruguayan member of an 11-university comparative study of education policy in MERCOSUR countries against SDG 4, funded by Brazil's National Council for Scientific and Technological Development (CNPq), with partners in Brazil, Chile, Paraguay and Argentina. ie.ort.edu.uy/novedades/investigacion-en-red-que-fortalece-la-coope...

## CAMPUS OPERATIONS

### Reporting on the SDGs

This report publishes ORT's 2025 progress on each of the 17 SDGs; each chapter is also issued as a stand-alone SDG report.

## COMMUNITY & PARTNERSHIPS

### Universities for Sustainability Network

On 1 December 2025 ORT became a founding member of the Red de Universidades por la Sostenibilidad (UNIS), the first inter-institutional alliance in Uruguay on sustainability and the circular economy in higher education, together with CLAEH, Universidad Católica del Uruguay, Universidad de la Empresa, Universidad de Montevideo and the Technological University (UTEC); Vice-Rector Dr. Pablo Landoni signed the founding document. ort.edu.uy/novedades/red-de-universidades-por-la-sostenibilidad

### Working with NGOs and government

The Faculty of Design collaborated with B'nai B'rith, an international social organization, and the National Road Safety Unit (Unasev) on the Mayo Amarillo road-safety campaign: Graphic Design and Digital Design students created posters and animated videos in their Design 3 course, combining academic learning with public awareness materials; the awards ceremony was held on 30 June. fd.ort.edu.uy/novedades/se-celebro-una-nueva-premiacion-de-mayo-ama...

### New international agreements

18 agreements were signed in 2025 with institutions in Brazil (FGV São Paulo School of Economics, Unicamp, Belas Artes), Canada (Concordia), Chile (Talca), Cyprus, South Korea (Jeonbuk), Spain (EINA, Francisco de Vitoria, Alfonso X el Sabio), France (Cnam-Enjmin), Israel (Tel Aviv University and its Coller School of Management), Italy (IULM), the United Kingdom (Huddersfield) and the United States (Greensboro College). The Tel Aviv accelerated master's includes sustainable development and climate change.

### Erasmus+ and European networks

Three Erasmus+ KA171 mobility projects were approved with Bratislava's Academy of Fine Arts and Design and Tampere University of Applied Sciences; ORT joined the GEMINAE network of UNITA.

### Projects for Peace

For the third consecutive year ORT partnered with Middlebury College, and it was selected again for 2026. ort.edu.uy/novedades/universidad-ort-uruguay-participa-en-projects-...

### With multilateral agencies

UNEP (planetary crisis event), UNICEF (Dominican Republic secondary education), the Organization of Ibero-American States (OEI) and UNESCO (regional report contributions), and a new UNESCO–ORT challenge with 50% postgraduate scholarships on creativity for sustainable futures. ort.edu.uy/novedades/universidad-ort-uruguay-lanza-una-beca-concurs...

### Cross-sector dialogue on the SDGs

The Academic Vice Dean of the School of Management took part in Expo Uruguay Sostenible 2025 and in the PRME (Principles for Responsible Management Education) Latin America and Caribbean meeting in Medellín (November 2025), where his paper on university innovation centres as drivers of SDG-aligned entrepreneurship received the best research paper award and ORT was presented as host of the next regional meeting. facs.ort.edu.uy/novedades/vicedecano-academico-en-expo-sostenible-2...

**16 course offerings linked to SDG 17 in 2025**

- Marketing digital (Management)
- Supply Chain Management (Dirección de Operaciones (Management)
- Taller 3 (Architecture)
- Comunicación de impacto, desarrollo humano y sostenibilidad (Communication)
- Diseño Editorial 3 (Design)
- Proyecto integrador (4097) (Design)
- Dirección de Negocios Sostenibles (Management)
- Procesos Migratorios Contemporáneos (Management)
- Diseño 3 (Design)

# Partnerships that multiply impact




Rector Jorge Grünberg speaking on generative AI in education at the World ORT Council of Representatives, Paris, May 2025.

On 1 December 2025 ORT became a founding member of the Universities for Sustainability Network (UNIS), the first inter-institutional alliance in Uruguay on sustainability and the circular economy in higher education, with CLAEH, Universidad Católica del Uruguay, Universidad de la Empresa, Universidad de Montevideo and the Technological University (UTEC).

International partnerships grew with 18 agreements signed in 2025 and three Erasmus+ KA171 mobility projects. Through an accelerated programme with Tel Aviv University, ORT students can begin master's studies that include sustainable development and climate change. ORT took part in Projects for Peace with Middlebury College for the third year, was selected again for 2026, and as a member of World ORT, the international education network founded in 1880, its Rector addressed the network's Council of Representatives in Paris.

Research networks connect ORT with the region: the Institute of Education is the Uruguayan member of an 11-university study of education policy in MERCOSUR countries against SDG 4, funded by Brazil's National Council for Scientific and Technological Development (CNPq).

ORT also works with multilateral agencies: UNEP, UNICEF, the Organization of Ibero-American States and UNESCO, with which it launched in December a challenge offering 50% postgraduate scholarships for proposals on creativity as a driver of sustainable, diverse and inclusive futures. At the PRME Latin America and Caribbean meeting, ORT's paper on university innovation centres as drivers of SDG-aligned entrepreneurship received the best research paper award.

## SELECTED 2025 PUBLICATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS BY ORT FACULTY

1. Gambetta, N., Compiani, E., González, D., & Topolansky, E. (2025, 6 de noviembre). From knowledge to impact: University innovation centers as drivers of SDG-Aligned entrepreneurship. [Presentación de artículo]. 15 Encuentro PRME LAC, Medellín, Colombia.
2. Alves, A. V. V., Fernandes, M. D. E., Assalin, E., Alarcón Leiva, J., Tejera, A., & Questa Torterolo, M. (2025). A constituição de conselhos educacionais no Brasil, Chile e Uruguai: Avanços e desafios para a relação democracia e educação. En Anais da 2a Reunião Nacional da ANPEd & WERA Focal Meeting (pp.1-44). Associação Nacional de Pós-Graduação e Pesquisa em Educação (ANPEd).
3. Albright, Z. C., & Telias, D. (2025). Bridging the Pacific: Chile and Uruguay's positioning in the face of China's rise. The Pacific Review, 31 p.
4. Pose Ferraro, N., & Telias, D. (2025, 3-5 de diciembre). ¿Modelos competidores en América Latina? Los acuerdos comerciales preferenciales de China frente al CPTPP. Trade agreements and model competition in Latin America: China and the CPTPP. [Presentación de artículo]. IX Congreso Uruguayo de Ciencia Política, Montevideo, Uruguay.
5. King, S., & Pousadela, I. M. (2025). The UN human rights council: Challenges and opportunities for reform (ENSURED Research Report nro. 8). Global Public Policy Institute (GPPi).

ANNEX

# About this report and data notes

## Scope and period

This report covers Universidad ORT Uruguay as a whole (six schools, two institutes and the Center for Innovation and Entrepreneurship) for the calendar year 1 January–31 December 2025. Comparative figures refer to 2024 and, where available, 2023.

## Structure

The report is organized by the 17 Sustainable Development Goals. Each chapter is self-contained and reports activity under four levers: teaching and learning, research and innovation, campus operations and community partnerships. Each SDG chapter is also published as an individual SDG report.

## Sources

Institutional data come from the Universidad ORT Uruguay Yearbooks (Anuario 2024 and Anuario 2025), which record new students, graduates, publications, research projects, agreements, mobility, library holdings and the activities of the Center for Innovation and Entrepreneurship. Waste data come from ORT Recicla, published in ORT news on 19 December 2024 and 26 December 2025. Qualitative evidence comes from the Yearbook and from news items published on ort.edu.uy and school websites between 1 January and 31 December 2025, cited next to each item.

## Definitions

**New students**: distinct students who enrolled in at least one course of a programme for the first time in the year (excludes international exchange). **Graduates**: final degrees awarded in the year, excluding intermediate titles. **Publications**: peer-reviewed journal and conference papers, books, book chapters and research documents by ORT-affiliated faculty. **Recycling rate**: tonnes recycled divided by total waste generated.

## Spotlights and publications

Each SDG chapter includes a spotlight based on the Yearbook and ORT news items, and a selection of 2025 publications and presentations by ORT-affiliated faculty taken from the Yearbook's list of academic output (187 items), chosen for their thematic relevance to the goal.

## Curriculum mapping

Each academic unit identified courses including at least one substantive unit on: environmental impact and natural resources; social responsibility and stakeholders; sustainable corporate governance; sustainability reporting frameworks and standards; or sustainable business models and innovation. The link between each course and the SDGs is indicative and based on the reported content.

## Contact

Sustainability Committee, Universidad ORT Uruguay · www.ort.edu.uy

UNIVERSIDAD ORT
Uruguay

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Montevideo, Uruguay

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