

**A N I I**

NATIONAL AGENCY  
FOR RESEARCH  
AND INNOVATION

20  
20

**#uypuede**  
through research  
and innovation



**FLAVIO CAIAFA**

President of the National Agency for  
Research and Innovation

|| As an Agency our mission is to turn science and innovation into key factors for economic growth, social development and country sustainability: this is the mission defined by our Board of Directors.

**We want to position Uruguay as a reliable partner for the development of science and research on a global level and as an ideal platform to grow from the region towards the world and from the world towards the region. ||**

## HOW WILL WE DO IT

1

INSTITUTIONAL  
STRENGTHENING

2

EXCELLENCE  
IN RESEARCH  
AND INNOVATION

3

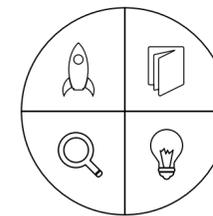
INTERNATIONALIZATION

4

FINANCIAL  
SUSTAINABILITY

MORE THAN  
**14 YEARS**

## WORKING TO BUILD A MORE INNOVATIVE, EQUITABLE AND SUSTAINABLE URUGUAY



FUNDS FOR  
RESEARCH  
PROJECTS

PROGRAMS TO STIMULATE  
INNOVATIVE CULTURE AND  
ENTREPRENEURSHIP

DIGITAL PLATFORMS  
TO ACCESS  
CONTENTS

SCHOLARSHIPS  
FOR GRADUATE  
STUDIES

**In 2020**

The pandemic had an unprecedented impact in our country and throughout the world, but we transformed ourselves to show that with cutting-edge innovation and research Uruguay can rise to any challenge.

# A WELL PREPARED TEAM

ANII's background and experience allowed a quick organizational transformation.

## 100% DIGITAL SYSTEMS

Our team did not stop working for a single day, implementing remote work since the appearance of the first case of COVID-19 in our country.

## RELATIONSHIP WITH OUR PUBLICS

We kept direct contact with our beneficiaries and users and offered them resources.

## INTERNAL CREATIVITY AND INNOVATION

We worked all year round redesigning our instruments to adjust them to the current scenario.

▶ **73**  
COLLABORATORS

▶ **6**  
CONSULTANTS

▶ **47**  
WOMEN

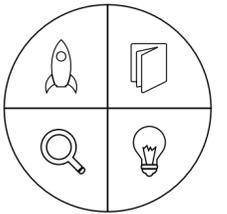
▶ **32**  
MEN

## IMMEDIATE RESPONSE

We launched national research and innovation challenges to mitigate the impact of the pandemic.

### + 38 SUPPORTED PROJECTS

Including respirators, serological tests, apps and devices, 10,000 diagnostic kits and entertainment solutions for preventive quarantine.



ANII contributed **UYU 27 MILLON** for the fight against the pandemic, besides leveraging **UYU 10 MILLON** contributed by public and international bodies and other institutions from the innovation ecosystem.

# UNITED FOR A COMMON GOOD

Entrepreneurs, students, companies,  
and the academy unite their skills.

## #UYPUEDE:

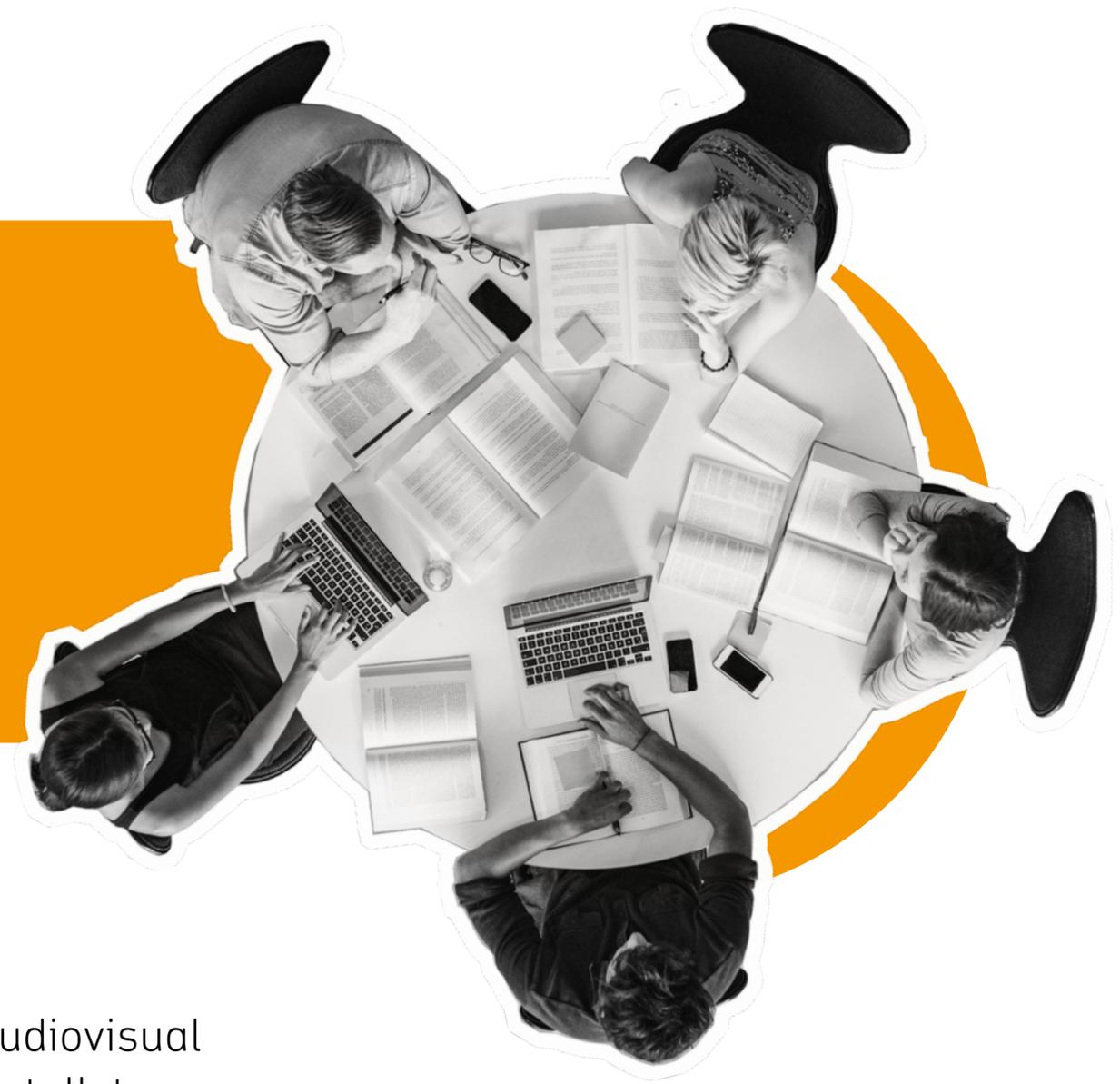
We launched a campaign to raise awareness on the work of scientists and companies that provided solutions for our national challenges to face COVID-19.

[+](#) SEE THE CONTRIBUTIONS

## REVOLVING:

We launched an audiovisual series in which we talk to Uruguayan innovators who tell us how their companies are facing the pandemic.

[+](#) SEE THE INTERVIEWS





## **BOOSTING OPEN SCIENCE AND ACCESS TO INFORMATION**

Digital Services for Uruguayans to access science, technology and innovation contents.

**+ 59,000**  
**USERS**

### **TIMBÓ FOCO**

Access to scientific bibliography.

**+19,800**  
**USERS**

### **CVUY**

Largest human resource platform of the country.

**+ 3,300**  
**USERS**

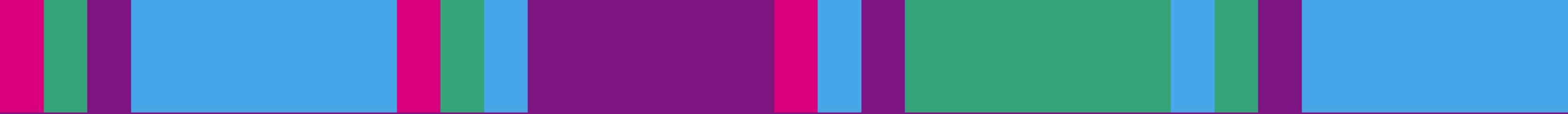
### **PRISMA**

Access portal to science, technology and innovation indicators of our country.

**+15,777**  
**ADDED CONTENTS**

### **SILO**

Open access to the production of national science and technology.



## FOCUSED ON THE URUGUAY OF THE FUTURE

**+11,249**  
approved  
projects  
since 2008

### **PUBLIC INNOVATION**

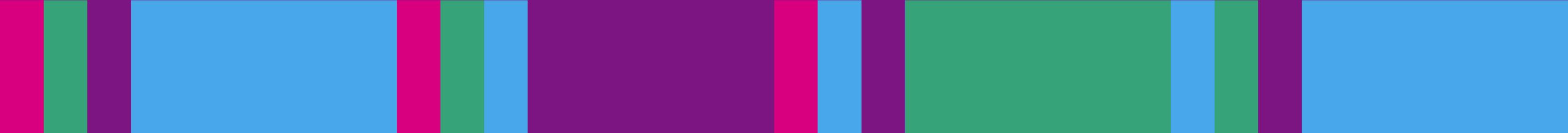
We launched a new program together with BID LAB to boost skills in public bodies in connection with purchases that foster innovation and improve the provision of goods and services.

### **IMPACT STUDIES**

We monitor the innovation ecosystem to get to know the situation of companies and ventures, and we launched a study on the challenges of the logistics sector of our country.

### **NEW CALLS**

To promote research, development and innovation through tax benefits or to implement projects related to energy, oncology, electronics, biotechnology and logistics.



20  
20

## LEADING RESEARCH

Focused on the Uruguay of the future



## 172 SUPPORTED PROJECTS

in connection with basic and applied research, citizen security, education, logistics, biotechnology, among others.

## + 1961 PEOPLE

comprising the National System of Researchers.

## DID YOU KNOW?

ANII's National System of Researchers provides an economic incentive and acknowledgment to Uruguayans who develop scientific projects. Many of its members contributed to science facing the sanitary crisis.



## SOME EXAMPLES

### **SOCIAL NETWORKS AND PREADOLESCENTS** +

DataSmartKids is an educational project that seeks to promote digital literacy of preadolescent students on the use of social networks, to enable them to develop critical awareness on the exposure of their personal data on these platforms.

### **RESEARCH ON BOVINES** +

Neosporosis causes millionaire losses in cattle production and reproduction systems. A recent project seeks to deepen the epidemiological aspects to optimize the application of control strategies in Uruguay and to determine the economic losses associated with the production systems under study.

### **ELECTRIC TRANSPORT OF CARGO** +

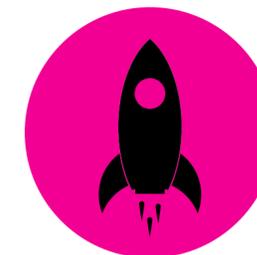
A project that started recently seeks to assess the challenges, enablers and opportunities that the introduction of electric vehicles (battery or hydrogen fuel cell) may have for cargo transport in Uruguay.

20  
20



## VENTURES TAKE OFF

Focused on the Uruguay of the future



## 88 SUPPORTED PROJECTS

We boost ideas for them to become a reality.

### DID YOU KNOW?

For every dollar that ANII invests in ventures

**USD 8,4** RETURNS TO THE GOVERNMENT  
THROUGH TAXES

**54%** of supported ventures are active  
(consistent value with global standards).

**KNOW MORE** 

## SOME EXAMPLES

### Young innovators

María Pía Campot Moreira was distinguished by the prestigious MIT Technology Review magazine as one of the young innovators under 35 years of age in the region. Her Enteria project analyzes the human intestinal microbiota. The presence of these microorganisms is key to our immune system and our nutrition.

### Intelligence in logistics

SimpliRoute is a logistics intelligence and optimization platform that enables transportation, logistics, e-commerce and retail companies to reduce their costs and increase customer satisfaction.

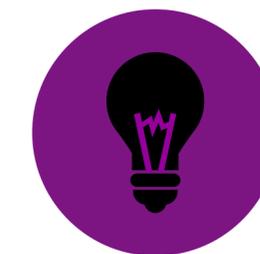
### Machine learning

Marvik is a company dedicated to the development of customized software using artificial intelligence to provide solutions to companies. With our support, they propose to develop a system that facilitates and assists in the process of labeling training data of machine learning models, seeking to gain efficiency, time, human error and costs.

20  
20

## UNLIMITED INNOVATION

Focused on the Uruguay of the future



### 224 SUPPORTED PROJECTS

We support company transformation through product, services and process innovation, as well as the training of human resources and expansion to new markets.

#### DID YOU KNOW?

We launched a monitoring report on the situation of companies supported by ANII:

**USD 6,5**

#### RETURNS TO THE GOVERNMENT

through taxes for every dollar invested by ANII.

**+ 20% EMPLOYMENT**    **+ 30% EXPORTERS**

ANII's beneficiary companies have a better performance than those not connected to ANII.

### CREATIVE INDUSTRIES

After four years, the joint program between ANII and BID LAB which supported creative projects in traditional sectors, creative industries and the link between them, came to an end.

**187** APPROVED PROJECTS  
SINCE ITS LAUNCHING

[KNOW MORE](#)



## SOME EXAMPLES

### **Detecting COVID-19 in the air** +

AravanLabs designed a device to detect the presence of coronavirus in closed spaces, allowing to take disinfection measures and to follow the epidemiological thread correctly.

### **Academy and companies to improve fertility** +

The Montevideo Sterility Center, which helps couples with difficulties in the reproductive process, set out to innovate to improve the fertility rate together with the School of Medicine of the University of the Republic and the Northwestern University Center for Reproductive Science, seeking to standardize the technique of vitrification of ovarian tissue in an animal model prior to its clinical application.

### **Inclusive project recognized in the region** +

Biofuego arises as a solution to the responsible management of pruning, forestry and agricultural waste, as it recycles these wastes into fuel blocks the size of a conventional brick. At the same time, it provides job opportunities for prison inmates while they are incarcerated and when they are released. It was the winner of the ULA 2020 (Uniting the Americas) competition for its innovative and sustainable character.

# TAX BENEFITS

**LAUNCHED IN SEPTEMBER 2020**

## 7 SUPPORTED PROJECTS

We launched a new incentive for R&D&I companies by which they can obtain tax credit through the development of innovative projects.



20  
20



## TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

Focused on the Uruguay of the future



**228 SCHOLARSHIPS GRANTED**

**+ 20 COOPERATION AGREEMENTS**

For graduate studies and internships in more than 5000 educational institutions throughout the world.

### **DID YOU KNOW?**

Natalia Echeverría, a Uruguayan virologist, received support from ANII for her internship at Rockefeller University under the guidance of Dr. Charles Rice, winner of the Nobel Prize in Medicine in 2020.

## SOME EXAMPLES

### Recognition for his music +

Gonzalo Varela completed a master's degree in Music Composition for the Screen in the United States with a Fulbright-ANII scholarship. In 2020, his song "Nana para esquivar la distancia" won third place in the Children's category of the 2020 National Music Awards, granted by the National Institute of Music.

### Study of antidepressant potential +

The therapeutic effectiveness of available antidepressants is limited: it acts only in a subset of patients and requires weeks to months of treatment. In this project, Paola Rodriguez proposes the study of the antidepressant profile of ibogaine and psilocybin and their active metabolites noribogaine and psilocin, using behavioral animal models and developing neurochemical studies.

### Graduate studies completed during pandemic times +

Estefanía Galván finished her PhD in Economics in France in 2020 on labor economics and gender. With her project, she seeks to explain different labor market outcomes, in particular income gaps by gender and gaps between actual and potential income.

20  
20

2020 was a year of many challenges, but through our contribution to research and innovation during all these years, our quick response and our reinvention disruptive spirit we proved once again that #UyPuede.

Data for ANII's annual report is prepared on the basis of the Annual Follow-Up Report, available [here](#).