

Abstract: “An overview of the light pollution of the night sky in Uruguay and the progress in its mitigation”

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This work aims to present an overview of the degree of light pollution of the night sky in different areas of the Uruguayan territory, and to summarize the main contributions made from the University of the Republic of Uruguay, and from the Astronomical Observatory of the Eastern Regional University Center (CURE) in particular, together with other public and private institutions and organizations, with the aim of mitigating the effects of artificial light at night. The development of astronomical tourism in Uruguay is included as a useful tool to achieve this goal. Recommendations made to the competent bodies to regulate lighting are included, both in populated centers or natural tourism centers, and in places belonging to the National System of Protected Areas (SNAP). The SNAP's places are characterized by their biodiversity, environmental, natural and landscape values. In Uruguay there are no still municipal or national laws that prevent public lighting to pollute the environment, including the night sky. An evaluation of the progress made towards this achievement is presented.