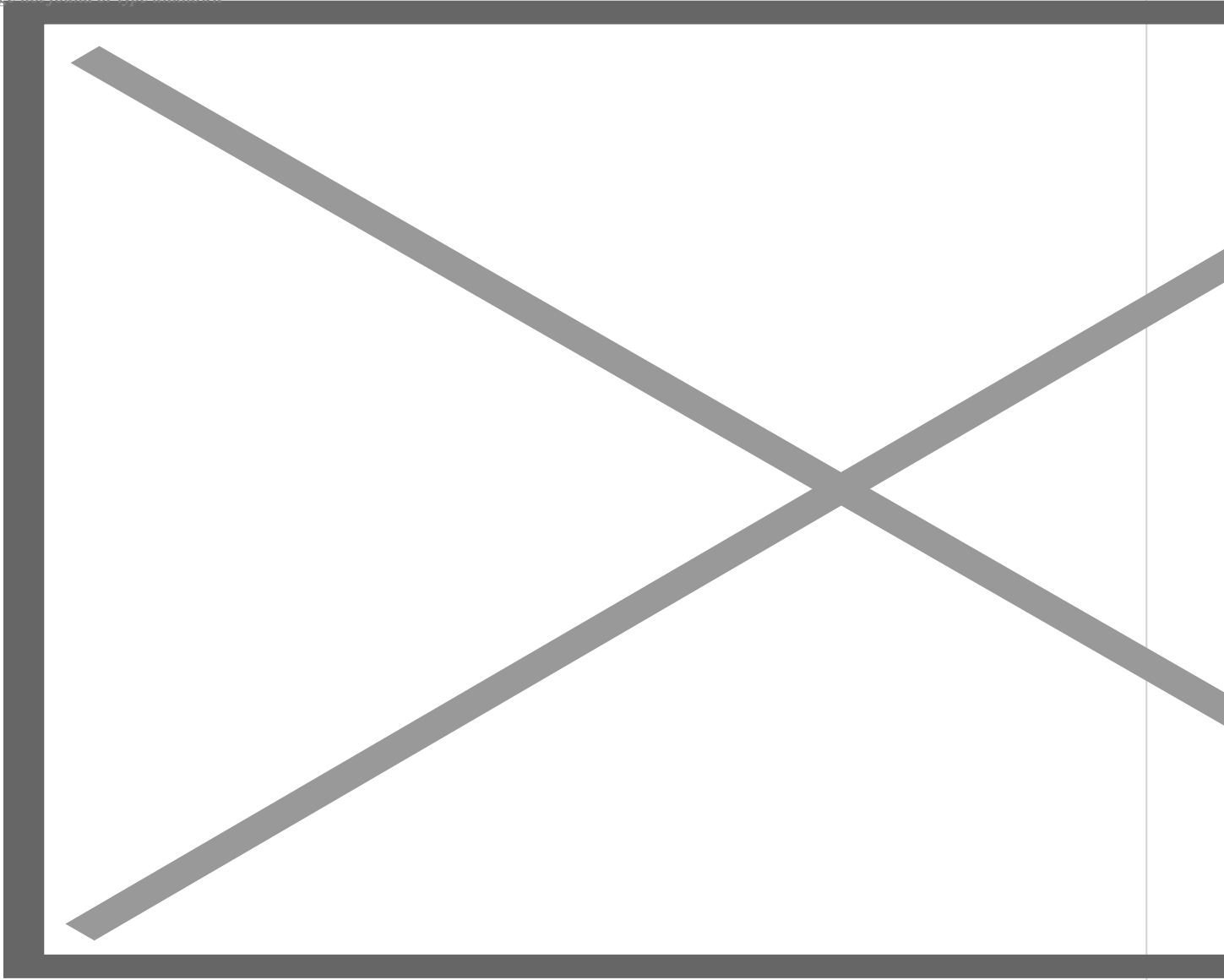


# *Economic actors: A look at the data*

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By Maritza Gutiérrez

The recent edition of the Cubaindustria 2024 international convention and fair was a favorable space to strengthen the Cuban industry, without a doubt, and as part of the business fabric, economic actors in all their diversity also had their space.

Among the activities of the event, the Ministry of Economy and Planning decided to explain and discuss what has happened to date with the process of implementing new figures, some newer than others, since workers really already existed in the Cuban economic scenario. On their own, agricultural cooperatives and cooperatives dedicated to other non-agricultural activities, that is, as new figures we speak of micro, small and medium-sized enterprises, MSMEs.

In this way, Verónica Rives Amaro, from the Directorate of Regulation of Economic Actors of the MEP, intervened to remember that in September 2021 the regulatory package that regulates everything related to micro, small and medium-sized businesses in a new way was put into effect. This process so far has been led by the Ministry of Economy and Planning.

As a result, today Cuba has 11,347 economic actors throughout the country. Of them, 11,046 are private, 231 are state-owned, and 71 are non-agricultural cooperatives, plus those that already existed.

The specialist specified that this process is not closed and will never be closed, since naturally, the business fabric of a country remains in constant change and evolution.

In fact, she added, the online platform used for these implementation processes by economic actors provides useful information. For example, about the most represented activities, which are firstly gastronomy and accommodation services, followed by construction and thirdly, the manufacturing industry.

Another interesting fact is that 59% of the economic actors today are newly created, which, according to the specialist, was not what was expected from the beginning, because there were more businesses that had to be converted than possible new businesses given the number of TCPs that already existed. This shows how the situation was changing rapidly. Another piece of information shows a wide gender difference, for example, in the number of female technicians, only 7%.

Without a doubt, the information that the Ministry of Economy and Planning currently manages is very useful to promote and encourage actions that make it easier for more women to become business owners or partners in Cuba, or for even more young people to access this possibility.

So the country proposes to work on the creation of public policies in line with the Cuban reality, while promoting the strengthening of its state and non-state companies, so that in an articulated manner and in tune with the Cuban social model, they work for the growth of production and services with quality, effectiveness and efficiency for the common good. In the end, that is what the people expect and need.

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