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Tomado de La Pupila Insomne por Omar Pérez Salomón

2019 was a year in which telephonic services and Internet access were extended and deepened in Cuba, and where transcendent advances were achieved in the purpose of reaching a greater computerization of society, as stated by the President of the Republic, Miguel Díaz-Canel Bermúdez, in the closing of the 4th Ordinary Period of Sessions of the National Assembly of People's Power in its 9th Legislature, on December 21, 2019, as well as for the contributions of this sector to the country's economy.

Some of the results that confirm it are the following:

The digitization of the telephone system in the country reached 100% when the digitization of the telephone system located in Central Mexico, municipality of Colon in Matanzas, was completed.

The expansion of the 4G technology in the mobile telephonic services was a reality in Havana and the main cities of the country.

On December 17, Cuba reached 6 million mobile phone users.

Internet and social media users are significantly growing up to more than 6 million people. Cuba is one of the countries with bigger growth rates.

The consolidation of the Cuban e-commerce platforms Transfermóvil and EnZona was launched. On the first one, more than 6 million monthly operations take place and features 435,000 active users. On the second one, 18 million pesos were sent over 90 days.

In March, the first stage of the e-government project called "Presence" was completed and progress is being made in the implementation of the second stage: "Interaction".

The Computer and Electronics Joven Clubs started connecting private data networks to their own network. At the end of 2019, there were 10,714 connected users in Havana.

Every month, more than 4.5 million users acquire the digital product "La Mochila" from Joven Club.

Joven Club expands the facilities that offer services to the entire population. Currently, there are 644 units of which 138 are in rural areas and 39 in the mountains.

At the end of this year, Joven Club had over 4.7 million graduates in different types of courses.

As part of an informative training campaign developed by Joven Club throughout the country, 103,624 people were trained in topics related to Information and Communication Technologies during 2019.

The online Cuban Collaborative Encyclopedia, EcuRed, completed nine years in service and achieved an average of 625,000 visits per day this year.

The website of Correos de Cuba consolidates the first and second stages of the Electronic Government and is the first Cuban platform that responds in less than 24 hours to requests and complaints.

On November 1st, the Science and Technology Park of Matanzas completed its second year of operation, which has greatly contributed to the computerization of that territory.

The governmental website of Pinar del Rio was granted an award during the World Summit on the

Information Society. Also, among the nominees for that prize were the Cubaeduca website and the web page of Correos de Cuba.

The partial transition phase of digital television began in the Special Municipality of Isla de la Juventud and five other municipalities in the province of Sancti Spíritus.

In January, the Council of Ministers approved 42 measures to strengthen cybersecurity, which have been implemented in all national agencies and institutions.

In July, the legal regulations that enforce the Computerization Policy of the Cuban society were published in the Official Gazette of the Republic of Cuba.

Also in July, the International Forum for the Peaceful Use of ICTs was held in Havana, with the participation of government authorities and experts from 22 nations.

On December 6, the first Cuba-China Internet Forum was held in Havana.

The second edition of the event Cibernsiedad 2019 was held in October with the participation of ICT specialists.

The U.S. government's blockade against Cuba had an impact on this sector in 2019 that cost the Cubans more than 155 million dollars.

Several investments were made to allow for more efficient monitoring of the country's radio spectrum.

The Council of Ministers passed the working system for territorial computerization and cybersecurity.

The communications sector is among the country's leading exporters.

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