

# CASH BASED INTERVENTIONS (CBI) BRAZIL

SEPTEMBER 2020



Venezuelan being relocated receives an assistance card from UNHCR staff in Boa Vista | © ACNUR/Allana Ferreira

**Cash-Based interventions, where feasible, are often a more dignified way of assisting affected populations, as they empower people to determine their own needs and the best way of meeting them.**

Markets in Brazil are integrated, accessible, competitive and well-stocked, and can subsequently respond to additional demands triggered by the injections of cash into the community. Moreover, cards (Debit/Credit/Prepaid) in the Brazilian market are widely used even by small shops.

In Brazil, the Government implements various social assistance programmes which target the local population including refugees and migrants. Cash assistance has already been provided by UNHCR and partners for many years, working towards expanding PoC's access to these Governmental social assistance programmes. For this reason, **UNHCR Cash Based Interventions do not replace access to benefits under the Brazilian Social Assistance System (SUAS)**; on the contrary, these are complementary modalities which, due to circumstances that are specific to the process of social inclusion of refugees, can be used to supplement the benefits provided by SUAS under very specific situations when there is an increased risk of protection.

**UNHCR Brazil assists persons of concern with a multipurpose grant, which is intended to cover basic needs and target the most vulnerable.**

Partners countrywide carry out an evaluation based on a pre-set vulnerability criterion to prioritize and a socio-economic analysis of the Person of Concern to determine whether to grant financial assistance in accordance with needs and the availability of resources. Values assigned are based on the family composition.



Cash assistance could be given from 1 to 3 months and families also referred to socioeconomic inclusion programs.

Since June 2019, UNHCR Brazil the multipurpose grant is paid through prepaid cards with a Financial Service provider selected through a nationwide tendering process. **This provides more flexibility to the PoC's as they can use prepaid cards at ATMs, commercial establishments or even "lotericas" (Lottery points).** The prepaid card is distributed by partners and the cash is transferred to the cards directly by UNHCR. The beneficiary receives the cash transfer immediately after it is approved by UNHCR. UNHCR also supports the voluntary relocation programme of Venezuelans from Roraima to other Brazilian states (interiorização), cash assistance was given to Persons of Concern reallocated on the modality job-based as well as a shelter-exit strategy to facilitate local integration of Venezuelans.

In order to harmonize and to speed up the eligibility process for our partners, CBI Unit works with a Scorecard which, is carried out by the professional responsible for the evaluation and then reviewed by the team that analyses the applications. The prioritization is currently as follows:

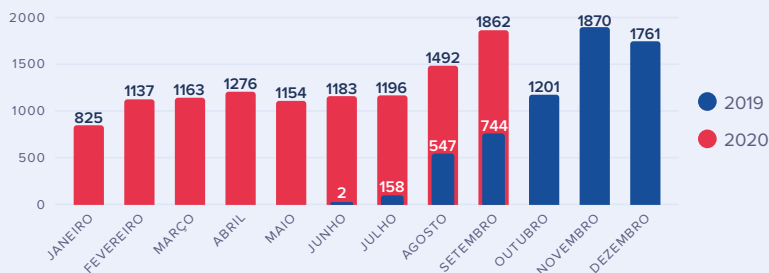
1. Unmet basic needs
2. Unaccompanied child
3. Person with serious medical condition
4. Person with disability
5. Older person at risk
6. Survivors of violence
7. Single parent or caregiver



Family Group 	Monthly Value 
1	BRL 699
2	BRL 788
3	BRL 877
4	BRL 966
5	BRL 1,055
6 or more	BRL 1,144

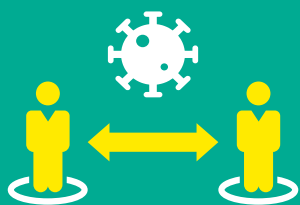
Since 2019, UNHCR has already distributed over BRL 4 million to beneficiaries located in 19 states with a higher concentration in Amazonas, Roraima, São Paulo, Rio de Janeiro, Paraná, Rio Grande do Sul, Distrito Federal.

CBI BENEFICIARIES PER MONTH



Year	BRL Distributed	Female households
2019	1,769,460	79%
2020	2,972,666	80%

During the COVID-19 emergency, CBI has been delivered following all the security and preventive measures, reducing the personal interaction with remote evaluations and registration. For the distribution of cards and in order to avoid overcrowded places, schedules were set with minimum presence in the Partners offices. Access to other emergency grants is considered in the evaluation to avoid duplications and provide support to most vulnerable during this pandemic.



Sliany receives from UNHCR partner IMDH the prepaid card from the CBI program in Brasilia. | © ACNUR/Luiz Fernando Godinho



For specific information on the process, please see two CBI videos prepared for beneficiaries:

Video in Portuguese

<https://youtu.be/00rfKIJb5Ws>

Video in Spanish

<https://youtu.be/Wc9Z1GbOBqA>

CBI Partners:



UNHCR Brazil is thankful for the support of private donors and:



UNHCR's private sector donors:



UNHCR Brazil is also thankful for the important support of and partnerships with other UN agencies, Brazilian authorities (at federal, state and municipal levels) and civil society organizations working together to deliver the emergency response and in the regular programmes of the Brazilian operation.