The Brazilian government maintains several programs of social assistance targeted at the needs of the local population, including refugees and migrants. UNHCR Brazil supports refugees and migrants through a financial assistance instrument called Cash Based Intervention (CBI), designed to fulfill basic needs and assist vulnerable populations. Therefore, the objective of CBI is not to replace access to the benefits of the Unified Social Assistance System (SUAS), but to complement the social inclusion process of refugees in specific situations where there are high protection risks, via ad hoc analysis.

How does CBI work?

CBI amounts are calculated based on the composition of the household and can be provided for 1 to 3 months, with possible extension according to vulnerability criteria and as families are referred to other social inclusion programs from the government.

Benefits are granted through the CBI strategy based on priority indicators that help partner entities analyze requests and harmonize the amounts paid. The priorities are set as follows:

1. Unmet need
2. Unaccompanied child
3. Person with a serious health problem
4. Disabled person
5. Elderly person at risk
6. Survivor of violence
7. Solo parent or caregiver

How is CBI put into effect?

As of June 2019, the allowance has been paid through bank cards issued by a Financial Service Provider selected after a national bidding process. This strategy gives more flexibility to the people of interest, since they can use the cards to make payments and withdrawals at ATMs, stores or lottery shops. The bank cards are delivered by partner organizations and the money is transferred to the cards directly by UNHCR, after approval.
How is CBI implemented in the Interiorization strategy?

The multi-purpose CBI is delivered after a priority assessment based on predetermined vulnerability criteria and social and economic analysis of the beneficiary. This is done to establish whether or not the cash assistance should be granted, according to the needs and availability of resources. There are two types of delivery depending on the type of Interiorization:

- **Institutional Modality:** The CBI is given during the period of stay at the reception and integration center (which can last from 1 to 3 months) to pay for expenses with food and enable access to job interviews, social assistance, Portuguese classes, professional training, and for entrepreneurship and education. The CBI also intends to support the most vulnerable beneficiaries to enable them to leave the reception and integration centers. Therefore, they can use the funds to rent a home, buy furniture and other useful items.

- **Employment-based Modality:** The CBI has been designed to support basic needs, like housing, food, and hygiene items (among others) during the first month of arrival at the destination and until the beneficiary receives his or her first salary. In cases of greater vulnerability, the CBI can be extended for up to three months.

- **Family Reunification and Social Reunion Modalities:** In cases of greater vulnerability, UNHCR provides more targeted support, in accordance with the same criteria for both modalities described above.

In 2020, UNHCR invested BRL 1,495,752 in CBI for Interiorization, of a total of BRL 2.7 million invested in the Interiorization strategy since July 2019.

In 2020, 1,830 CBI transfers were made for Interiorization. They benefited 2,299 people\(^1\), grouped in 795 families, of which 517 were headed by women (65%).

The chart above shows the number of people who benefited from CBI transfers each month. When we add the twelve months, we have a total of 6,048 people benefited by 1,830 transfers. These people make up family groups that have been beneficiaries of one or more payments over the months, depending on the number of transfers authorized to each family group.

\(^1\) 2,299 is the number of persons regardless of the number of transfers received.
In the Institutional Modality, there were 1,104 CBI transfers, which benefited 998 people in 274 family groups, of which 248 (90%) were families headed by women. In total, UNHCR invested BRL 868,761 in CBI in the Interiorization strategy under the Institutional Modality.

The chart above shows the total number of people who benefited from CBI transfers each month. When we add the twelve months, we have a total of 4,051 people benefited by 1,104 transfers. These people make up family groups that have been beneficiaries of one or more payments over the months, depending on the number of transfers authorized to each family group.

Of the beneficiaries, 16% were in Rio Grande do Sul, 13% in Rio de Janeiro, 11.9% in the Federal District, 10% in São Paulo, and 10% in Minas Gerais, totaling 60.9% of the beneficiaries in the five aforementioned states. With that, 34% of the beneficiaries are concentrated in the southeast, 16% in the south, and 11.9% in the center-west region.

998 is the number of persons regardless of the number of transfers received.
Employment-based Modality

In the Employment-based Modality, there were 726 CBI transfers, which benefited 1,302 persons in 534 family groups, of which 282 (52%) were families headed by women. In total, UNHCR invested BRL 626,991 in CBI in the Interiorization strategy in the Employment-based Modality.\(^3\)

The chart above shows the total number of people who benefited from CBI transfers each month. When we add the twelve months, we have a total of 1,997 people benefited by 726 transfers. These people make up family groups that have been beneficiaries of one or more payments over the months, depending on the number of transfers authorized to each family group.