CASH ASSISTANCE IN BRAZIL

MARCH 2023

The Brazilian Government, through social programs, provides families in situations of vulnerability and extreme poverty - including asylum-seekers, refugees, and migrants - with access to social assistance, health, education, employment, and income.

The Multi-Purpose cash Grant (MPG) implemented by UNHCR ensures greater flexibility and power of choice for refugees and other forcibly displaced families: in Brazil, cash assistance is provided both for those in vulnerable situations and those participating in the voluntary relocation strategy (known as interiorização) led by the Federal Government.

UNHCR’s cash assistance interventions in Brazil act as a bridge until refugee families find a way to support themselves or until they receive government assistance. They are also a tool that promotes social and financial inclusion of forcibly displaced people.

BRAZIL CONTEXT

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**TARGET**

Refugees, asylum-seekers, displaced and stateless people

**FREQUENCY**

Monthly

**DURATION**

From 1 up to 3 months of assistance

**DELIVERY**

Through non-nominal prepaid cards

- Can be used in ATMs and commercial establishment.
- The card flag is accepted countrywide.

**VALUES**

From BRL 839 to 1284²

**PRIORITIZATION & DISTRIBUTION**

Done by UNHCR’s implementing partners by means of evaluation and interviews¹

For distribution of multipurpose grants, UNHCR Brazil works with 11 implementing partners.

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1. Assessing socioeconomic vulnerabilities, specific needs, and coping capacities.
2. Assigned according to the family composition

**KEY FIGURES**

- BRL 4,680,633 delivered in 2022
- 4,113 installments
- 6,066 beneficiaries
- 1,585 female heads of household

UNHCR uses cash assistance to provide protection support and access to services to refugees and other forcibly displaced people.

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.

Well-designed and operationalized cash-based interventions also have a multiplier effect as they can directly benefit the local economy.

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2022 POST DISTRIBUTION MONITORING (PDM)

The PDM report provides an analysis of the impact of cash assistance for the families who have received such support during the year.

In cooperation with the Federal University of Uberlandia (UFU), UNHCR interviewed 181 people through online survey and telephone.

The report shows that cash assistance has a positive impact in the lives of the benefitted families:

- **90%** reported that cash assistance improved their living conditions.
- **84%** acknowledged that it reduced the feelings of stress.
- **74%** families declared to have a bank and/or mobile money account.
- **94%** families declared to have food expenditures made with cash assistance.
- **72%** declared to have rent expenditures made with cash assistance.

For specific information on the cash assistance delivery process, see the video links available in Portuguese and Spanish.

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**UNHCR partners in Brazil**

**UNHCR supporters in Brazil**

Donor countries of UNHCR in Brazil and global programmes with flexible funding that supports the humanitarian response in the country.

**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.