

# JCTR BASIC NEEDS BASKET: KASAMA

November 2009

## (A) COST OF BASIC FOOD ITEMS FOR A FAMILY OF SIX IN KASAMA

Commodity	Kwacha	Quantity	Total
Mealie meal (breakfast)	62,000	3 x 25 Kg bags	186,000
Beans	6,100	2 Kgs	12,200
Kapenta (Mpulungu)	41,900	2 Kgs	83,800
Dry Fish (chinyonge)	39,800	1 Kg	39,800
Meat (mixed cut)	18,600	4 Kgs	74,400
Eggs	8,500	2 Units	17,000
Vegetables (greens)	4,100	7.5 Kgs	30,750
Tomato	4,500	4 Kgs	18,000
Onion	4,400	4 Kgs	17,600
Milk (long-life)	4,500	4 x 500 ml	18,000
Cooking oil (2.5 litre bottle)	27,700	4 litres	44,320
Bread	4,000	1 loaf/day	120,000
Sugar	5,400	8 Kgs	43,200
Salt	3,300	1 Kg	3,300
Tea (Kawambwa)	600	500 g	12,000
<b>Sub-total</b>			<b>K720, 370</b>

## (B) COST OF ESSENTIAL NON-FOOD ITEMS

Charcoal (50 Kg bag)	15,000	180 Kgs	54,000
Soap (Lifebuoy)	2,500	10 tablets	25,000
Wash soap (Chik)	5,200	4 bars	20,800
Jelly (e.g. Vaseline)	8,100	1 x 500 ml	8,100
Electricity (medium density)	191,000		191,000
Water & Sanitation (med - fixed)	55,000		55,000
Housing (3 bedroom)	350,000		350,000
<b>Sub-total</b>			<b>K703, 900</b>
<b>Total for Basic Needs Basket</b>			<b>K1, 424,270</b>

Totals from previous months	Nov 08	Dec 08	Jan 09	Feb 09	Mar 09	Apr 09	May 09	Jun 09	Jul 09	Aug 09	Sep 09	Oct 09
Amount	1,194,630	1,249,000	1,279,880	1,304,310	1,319,660	1,372,940	1,368,910	1,347,660	1,351,800	1,425,880	1,416,740	1,426,370

## (C) SOME OTHER ADDITIONAL COSTS

Item	Kwacha	Item	Kwacha
Education		Health	
Grades 1-7 (PTA+Project/year)	K50,000 – K100,000	Consultation Fee	K2,500
Grades 8-9 (User+PTA/year)	K200,000 – K250,000	Mosquito Net (pregnant / ↓5)	K3,000
Grades 10-12 (User+PTA/year)	K200,000 – K300,000	Lab tests (e.g., malaria)	K1,000-K3,000
School Uniform	K120,000 – K130,000	Fuel (cost at the pump)	
Transport (bus fare round trip):		Petrol (per litre)	K6, 528
Tazara-Town	K6,000	Diesel (per litre)	K6,187
Location-Town	K6,000	Kerosene (per litre)	K4,447

## (D) A COMPARISON OF COSTS OF BASIC NEEDS ACROSS ZAMBIA IN NOVEMBER

Lusaka	Ndola	Kitwe	Luanshya	Kabwe	Livingstone	Mongu	Solwezi	Monze
2,254,630	1,685,214	1,962,180	1,407,490	1,527,020	1,849,391		2,003,330	1,686,940

This survey was conducted on 30<sup>th</sup> October 2009 by the Social Conditions Programme of the Jesuit Centre for Theological Reflection. Average prices were calculated on the basis of surveys conducted at NewTown Market, Chikumanino Market, Tazara Market, Chambeshi Market and Town Centre Shoprite. Additional information was obtained from ZESCO, the Chambeshi Water and Sewerage Company and schools, clinics and houses around Kasama. The November Basic Needs Basket is approximately US\$305 based upon an average middle exchange rate of 4669 Kwacha per US\$ at the end of November. Please note that other monthly costs would include personal care, clothing, recreation, etc.

Jesuit Centre for Theological Reflection, P.O. Box 37774, 10101 Lusaka, Zambia  
 Tel: 260-211-290-410 Fax: 260-211-290-759 E-mail: [socialjctr@jesuits.org.zm](mailto:socialjctr@jesuits.org.zm) Internet: [www.jctr.org.zm](http://www.jctr.org.zm)  
 Location: Luwisha House, Plot 5880 Great East Road (opposite UNZA main gate), Lusaka