

JCTR BASIC NEEDS BASKET: LUSAKA

December 2011

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

Commodity	Kwacha	Quantity	Total
Mealie Meal (breakfast)	45,600	3 x 25 Kg bags	136,800
Beans	16,300	2 Kgs	32,600
Kapenta (Siavonga)	64,200	2 Kgs	128,400
Dry Fish	57,500	1 Kg	57,500
Meat (mixed cut)	24,100	4 Kgs	96,400
Eggs	8,000	2 Units	16,000
Vegetables (greens)	3,500	7.5 Kgs	26,250
Tomato	4,900	4 Kgs	19,600
Onion	10,300	4 Kgs	41,200
Milk (fresh)	14,500	1 x 2 litres	14,500
Cooking oil	27,100	2 x 2 litres	54,200
Bread	4,400	1 loaf/day	132,000
Sugar	7,000	8 Kgs	56,000
Salt	3,500	1 Kg	3,500
Tea (leaves)	3,800	1 x 500 g	3,800
Sub-total			K818, 750

(B) COST OF ESSENTIAL NON-FOOD ITEMS

Charcoal	98, 800	2 x 90 Kg bags	197,600
Soap (Lifebuoy)	2,400	10 tablets	24,000
Wash soap (Boom)	4,000	4 x 400 g	16,000
Jelly	7,800	1 x 500 ml	7,800
Electricity (medium - fixed)	130,000		130,000
Water & Sanitation (med - fixed)	210,000		210,000
Housing (3 bedroom)	1,500,000		1,500,000
Sub-total			K2, 085,400

Total for Basic Needs Basket **K2, 904,150**

*Note that the cost of housing has not been adjusted because research and consultations are still ongoing

Totals from previous months	Dec 10	Jan 11	Feb 11	Mar 11	Apr 11	May 11	Jun 11	Jul 11	Aug 11	Sep 11	Oct 11	Nov 11
Amount	K2,879,430	K3,019,100	K2,982,350	K3,008,800	K3,003,550	K2,917,350	K2,928,750	K2,922,800	K2,922,950	K2,915,200	K2,917,150	K2,904,550

(C) SOME OTHER ADDITIONAL COSTS

Item	Kwacha	Item	Kwacha
Education		Transport (bus fare round trip):	
Grades 8-9 (User+PTA/year)	K350, 000 – K470, 000	Chilenje-Town	K7, 200
Grades 10-12 (User+PTA/year)	K600, 000 – K900, 000	Chelston-Town	K7, 800
School Uniform (grades 8-12)	K90, 000 – K200, 000	Matero-Town	K7, 000
Health (clinic)		Fuel (cost at the pump)	
3 Month Scheme (per person)	K5, 000	Petrol (per litre)	K8, 155
No Scheme Emergency Fee	K5, 500	Diesel (per litre)	K7, 566
Mosquito Net (private)	K30, 000 – K120, 000	Paraffin (per litre)	K5, 154

(D) SOME COMPARATIVE FIGURES OF WAGES--"TAKE HOME PAY"

	Teacher	Nurse	Guard with Security Firm	Secretary in Civil Service	Average Monthly Income in Urban Low-Cost Area - CSO	Piecoworker on a Farm
Pay Slip	K1,300,300 to K2,200,600	K1,300,000 to K3,450,000	K250,000 to K850,000	K1,390,500 to K1,900,000	645,326 (between October 2004 and January 2005)	K5,000 to K15,000 per day

This survey was conducted on 29 & 30 December 2011 by the Social Conditions Programme of the Jesuit Centre for Theological Reflection. Average prices were calculated on the basis of prices gathered from retail outlets at Northmead, Shoprite (Kafue Road), and City Market, Chawama, Chanda, Kabwata, Matero and schools, clinics/hospitals around Lusaka. The December Basic Needs Basket is approximately US\$567 based upon an average middle exchange rate of 5120 Kwacha per US\$ at the end of December.