

# JCTR BASIC NEEDS BASKET: LUSAKA

May 2010

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

Commodity	Kwacha	Quantity	Total
Mealie meal (breakfast)	64,300	3 x 25 Kg bags	192,900
Beans	12,700	2 Kgs	25,400
Kapenta (Siavonga)	81,700	2 Kgs	163,400
Dry Fish	83,300	1 Kg	83,300
Meat (mixed cut)	21,000	4 Kgs	84,000
Eggs	8,000	2 Units	16,000
Vegetables (greens)	5,700	7.5 Kgs	42,750
Tomato	7,800	4 Kgs	31,200
Onion	7,800	4Kgs	31,200
Milk (fresh)	12,300	1 x 2 litres	12,300
Cooking oil	29,200	2 x 2 litres	58,400
Bread	3,900	1 loaf/day	117,000
Sugar	6,500	8 Kgs	52,000
Salt	3,300	1 Kg	3,300
Tea (leaves)	11,800	1 x 500 g	11,800
<b>Sub-total</b>			<b>K924, 950</b>

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

Charcoal	70,000	2 x 90 Kg bags	140, 000
Soap (lifebuoy)	2,500	10 tablets	25,000
Wash soap (Boom)	4,100	4 x 400 g	16,400
Jelly (e.g., Vaseline)	7,700	1 x 500 ml	7,700
Electricity (medium density)	70,000	300 units	70,000
Water & Sanitation (med - fixed)	114,530		114,530
Housing (medium density)	1,500,000		1,500,000
<b>Sub-total</b>			<b>K1, 873,630</b>

### Total for Basic Needs Basket

**K2, 798,580**

Totals from previous months	May 09	Jun 09	Jul 09	Aug 09	Sep 09	Oct 09	Nov 09	Dec 09	Jan 10	Feb 10	Mar 10	Apr 10
Amount	2,240,280	2,168,730	2,226,930	2,235,730	2,260,680	2,200,630	2,254,630	2,276,730	2,696,030	2,713,580	2,771,930	2,778,680

## (C) SOME OTHER ADDITIONAL COSTS

Item	Kwacha	Item	Kwacha
Education		Transport (bus fare round trip):	
Grades 8-9 (User+PTA/year)	K300, 000 – K420, 000	Chilenje-Town	K6, 000
Grades 10-12 (User+PTA/year)	K600, 000 – K900, 000	Chelston-Town	K7, 000
School Uniform (grades 8-12)	K90, 000 – K180, 000	Matero-Town	K5, 400
Health (clinic)		Fuel (cost at the pump)	
3 Month Scheme (per person)	K5, 000	Petrol (per litre)	K7, 750
No Scheme Emergency Fee	K5, 500	Diesel (per litre)	K7, 250
Mosquito Net (private)	K15, 000 – K20, 000	Paraffin (per litre)	

## (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 26 & 27 May 2010 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, Chainta, Kabwata, Matero and schools, clinics/hospitals around Lusaka. The May Basic Needs Basket is approximately US\$585 based upon an average middle exchange rate of 5035 Kwacha per US\$ at the end of May.