JCTR *BASIC* *NEEDS* *BASKET*: LUSAKA

## March 2014

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

**Commodity Kwacha Quantity Total Kwacha**

Mealie Meal (breakfast) 70.14 2 x 25Kgs 140.28

Beans 21.37 3 Kgs 64.11

Kapenta (dry) 107.52 2 Kgs 215.04

Bream (dry) 101.59 1Kgs 101.59

Beef, mixed cut 29.36 4 Kgs 117.54

Dark green vegetable 7.47 4 Kgs 29.88

Tomatoes 5.41 4 Kgs 21.64

Onion, large 8.78 2 Kgs 17.56

Cooking oil (2.5 Ltrs) 35.96 3 litres 43.15

Bread wheat, refined floor, baked 4.98 1 loaf/day 149.40

Sugar 15.64 6 Kgs 46.92

Milk (fresh) 5.54 4x500ml 22.16

Tea, powder (250g) 12.83 1 Kgs 51.32

Eggs 9.50 2 Units 19.00

Salt 4.57 1Kgs 4.57

***Sub Total*  1,044.06**

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

Charcoal (90Kg bags) 125.00 180 Kgs 250.00

Soap (Lifebuoy/Champion) 3.04 10 Tablets 30.40

Wash soap (Boom) 4.93 4x400g 19.72

Jelly (e.g. Vaseline) 11.54 1x500ml 11.54

Electricity (med. density - fixed) 372.00 372.00

Water & Sanitation (med. cost - fixed) 210.00 210.00

Housing (med. density - 3 bedroom) 1,750.00 1,750.00

***Sub Total*  2,643.66**

***Total for Basic Needs Basket* 3,687.72**

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| **Totals from previous months** | Feb 13 | Mar 13 | Apr 13 | May 13 | Jun 13 | Jul 13 | Aug 13 | Sep 13 | Oct 13 | Nov 13 | Dec 13 | Jan 14 | Feb 14 |
| **Amount (K)** | **3,645.44** | **3,616.18** | **3,593.60** | **3,625.20** | **3,684.46** | **3,638.42** | **3,581.13** | **3,536.69** | **3,575.37** | **3,557.81** | **3,538.54** | **3,601.01** | **3,616.28** |

**(C) SOME OTHER ADDITIONAL COSTS**

**Item**  **Kwacha Item Kwacha**

**Education**  **Transport (bus fare round trip)**

Grades 8-9 (User + PTA/year) K400.00 – K600.00 Chilenje-Town K9.00

Grades 10-12 (User + PTA/year) K650.00 – K1, 300.00 Chelstone -Town K9.60

School Uniform (grades 8-12) K90.00 – K200.00 Matero-Town K8.40

**Health (clinic)** **Fuel (cost at the pump)**

Registration (book) K3.00 - K5.00 Petrol (per litre) K9.91

Self referral (Emergency Fee) K 5.500 Diesel (per litre) K9.20

Mosquito Net (private) K30.00 – K120.00 Paraffin (per litre) K6.83

**(D) A COMPARISON OF COSTS (in Kwacha) OF BASIC NEEDS ACROSS ZAMBIA IN MARCH**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
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| **Lusaka** | **Kasama** | **Solwezi** | **Monze** | **Chipata** | **Kabwe** | **Livingstone** | **Mpika** | **Luanshya** |
| **3,687.72** | **2,361.74** | **2,560.01** | **2,240.32** | **2,269.13** | **2,540.23** | **2,765.92** | **1,612.48** | **2,373.32** |

This survey was conducted on **27thMarch, 2014** by the Social & Economic Development Programme of the Jesuit Centre for Theological Reflection. Average prices were calculated on the basis of prices gathered from retail outlets at Northmead, Shoprite (Cairo Road), City Market, Chawama, Chainda, Kabwata, Matero and schools, clinics/hospitals and filling stations around Lusaka. The March Basic Needs Basket is approximately **US$580** based upon the exchange rate of **K6.3627** per US**$** prevailing on the day of data collection.

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