JCTR *BASIC* *NEEDS* *BASKET:* SOLWEZI

## March 2014

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

**Commodity Quantity Kwacha Total Kwacha**

Mealie meal (breakfast) 2 x 25Kgs 84.50 169.00

Beans 3 Kgs 10.83 32.49

Kapenta (dry) 2 Kgs 54.36 108.72

Bream, smoked 1 Kgs 62.60 62.60

Meat (mixed cut) 4Kgs 25.32 101.28

Dark green vegetable 4 Kgs 2.60 10.40

Tomatoes 4 Kgs 4.41 17.64

Onion, large 2 Kgs 3.80 7.60

Cooking oil (2.5 Ltrs) 3 Litres 30.00 45.00

Bread wheat, refined flour, baked 1loaf/day 4.73 141.90

Sugar 6 Kgs 14.08 42.24

Milk (long life, 500ml) 4x500ml 4.95 19.80

Tea, powder (25g) 1 Kgs 1.12 44.80

Eggs 2units 9.43 18.86

Salt 1 Kgs 3.00 3.00

***Sub total***   **825.33**

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

Charcoal 2x 90Kg bags 84.00 168.00

Soap (Lifebouy) 10 Tablets 3.16 31.60

Wash soap (Boom) 4x400g 3.37 13.48

Jelly (e.g Vaseline) 1x500ml 10.60 10.60

Electricity (medium density - fixed) 265.00 265.00

Water & Sanitation (medium cost - fixed) 240.00 240.00

Housing (medium density - 3 bedroom) 1,006.00 1,006.00

***Sub Total***   **1,734.68**

***Total for Basic Needs Basket***   **2,560.01**

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Totals from previous months** | Feb 13 | Mar 13 | Apr 13 | May 13 | June 13 | Jul 13 | Aug 13 | Sep 13 | Oct 13 | Nov 13 | Dec 13 | Jan 14 | Feb 14 |
| Amount (K) | **2,994.35** | **3,001.15** | **2,988.90** | **3,003.95** | **3,013.65** | **3,003.83** | **3,011.77** | **3,006.51** | **3,011.35** | **3,014.68** | **3,048.46** | **3,053.03** |  |

**(C) SOME OTHER ADDITIONAL COST**

**Item**  **K Item K**

Education Health

Grades 1-7 (PTA+Project/year) K100.00 Consultation Fee K10.00

Grades 8-9 (User+PTA/year) K260.00 Mosquito Net (pregnant / ↓5) K12.00

Grades 10-12 (User+PTA/year) K340.00

School Uniform K210.00 – K450.00 Fuel (cost at the pump)

Transport (bus fare round trip): Petrol (per litre) K10.00

Chawama-Town K6.00 Diesel (per litre) K7.00

Mitec-Town K6.00 Kerosene (per litre) -

Messenger – Town K6.00

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

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Lusaka** | **Kasama** | **Mansa** | **Mongu** | **Ndola** | **Solwezi** | **Monze** | **Chipata** | **Mpika** |
| **3,605.01** | **2,276.68** | **2,247.85** | **1,985.94** | **2,889.81** | **3,053.03** | **2,211.73** | **2,197.32** | **1,613.56** |

This survey was conducted on **29th to 30th March, 2014** by the Social and Economic Development Programme of the Jesuit Centre for Theological Reflection. Average prices were calculated on the basis of surveys conducted at Kyawama Market, Main Market, Zambia Market, Mitec Market, and Messenger Market. Additional information was obtained from ZESCO, Solwezi water and Sewerage Company and schools, clinics and houses around Solwezi. The March Basic Needs Basket is approximately **US$415** based upon the average exchange rate of **K 6.1714** per US**$** prevailing on **29th and 30th March, 2014.** Please note that other monthly costs would include personal care, clothing, recreation, etc.

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