

# JCTR BASIC NEEDS BASKET: LUSAKA

November 2010

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

Commodity	Kwacha	Quantity	Total
Mealie meal (breakfast)	51,700	3 x 25 Kg bags	155,100
Beans	8,600	2 Kgs	17,200
Kapenta (Siavonga)	92,700	2 Kgs	185,400
Dry Fish	93,300	1 Kg	93,300
Meat (mixed cut)	23,400	4 Kgs	93,600
Eggs	7,700	2 Units	15,400
Vegetables (greens)	4,300	7.5 Kgs	32,250
Tomato	5,400	4 Kgs	21,600
Onion	6,000	4Kgs	24,000
Milk (fresh)	12,900	1 x 2 litres	12,900
Cooking oil	29,000	2 x 2 litres	58,000
Bread	4,300	1 loaf/day	129,000
Sugar	6,300	8 Kgs	50,400
Salt	3,200	1 Kg	3,200
Tea (leaves)	9,200	1 x 500 g	9,200
<b>Sub-total</b>			<b>K900, 550</b>

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

Charcoal	80,600	2 x 90 Kg bags	161, 200
Soap (lifebuoy)	3,000	10 tablets	30,000
Wash soap (Boom)	4,300	4 x 400 g	17,200
Jelly (e.g., Vaseline)	8,000	1 x 500 ml	8,000
Electricity (medium density)	130,000	300 units	130,000
Water & Sanitation (med - fixed)	114,530		114,530
Housing (medium density)	1,500,000		1,500,000
<b>Sub-total</b>			<b>K1, 960,930</b>

**Total for Basic Needs Basket K2, 861,480**

Totals from previous months	Nov 09	Dec 09	Jan 10	Feb 10	Mar 10	Apr 10	May 10	Jun10	Jul 10	Aug 10	Sept 10	Oct 09
Amount	2,254,630	2,276,730	2,696,030	2,713,580	2,771,930	2,778,680	2,798,580	2,799,280	2,809,480	2,828,780	2,850,680	2,877,830

## (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, 639
No Scheme Emergency Fee	K5, 500	Diesel (per litre)	K6, 999
Mosquito Net (private)	K15, 000 – K20, 000	Paraffin (per litre)	K5,030

## (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	Pieceworker 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 **28 & 30 November 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 November Basic Needs Basket is approximately **US\$603** based upon an average middle exchange rate of 4747 Kwacha per US\$ at the end of November.