

# JCTR BASIC NEEDS BASKET: LUSAKA

October 2010

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

Commodity	Kwacha	Quantity	Total
Mealie meal (breakfast)	54,600	3 x 25 Kg bags	165,300
Beans	12,400	2 Kgs	24,800
Kapenta (Siavonga)	79,000	2 Kgs	158,000
Dry Fish	90,000	1 Kg	90,000
Meat (mixed cut)	20,000	4 Kgs	80,000
Eggs	7,400	2 Units	14,800
Vegetables (greens)	4,600	7.5 Kgs	34,500
Tomato	6,700	4 Kgs	26,000
Onion	10,100	4Kgs	40,400
Milk (fresh)	12,500	1 x 2 litres	12,500
Cooking oil	29,600	2 x 2 litres	59,200
Bread	4,200	1 loaf/day	126,000
Sugar	6,400	8 Kgs	51,200
Salt	3,300	1 Kg	3,300
Tea (leaves)	9,700	1 x 500 g	9,700
<b>Sub-total</b>			<b>K895, 000</b>

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

Charcoal	91,200	2 x 90 Kg bags	182, 400
Soap (lifebuoy)	3,200	10 tablets	32,000
Wash soap (Boom)	4,200	4 x 400 g	16,800
Jelly (e.g., Vaseline)	7,100	1 x 500 ml	7,100
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, 982,830</b>

**Total for Basic Needs Basket**

**K2, 877,830**

Totals from previous months	Oct 09	Nov 09	Dec 09	Jan 10	Feb 10	Mar 10	Apr 10	May 10	Jun10	Jul 10	Aug 10	Sept 10
Amount	2,200,630	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

## (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	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 **27 & 28 October 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, Chanda, Kabwata, Matero and schools, clinics/hospitals around Lusaka. The October Basic Needs Basket is approximately **US\$589 based** upon an average middle exchange rate of 4890 Kwacha per US\$ at the end of October.