

# JCTR BASIC NEEDS BASKET: LUSAKA

July 2009

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

Commodity	Kwacha	Quantity	Total
Mealie meal (breakfast)	63,000	3 x 25 Kg bags	189,000
Beans	9,100	2 Kgs	18,200
Kapenta (Siavonga)	44,300	2 Kgs	88,600
Dry Fish	60,000	1 Kg	60,000
Meat (mixed cut)	18,100	4 Kgs	72,400
Eggs	7,600	2 Units	15,200
Vegetables (greens)	6,000	7.5 Kgs	45,000
Tomato	8,000	4 Kgs	32,000
Onion	7,600	4 Kgs	30,400
Milk (fresh)	11,000	1 x 2 litres	11,000
Cooking oil	27,900	2 x 2 litres	55,800
Bread	3,700	1 loaf/day	111,000
Sugar	5,400	8 Kgs	43,200
Salt	2,100	1 Kg	2,100
Tea (leaves)	10,700	1 x 500 g	10,700
<b>Sub-total</b>			<b>K784, 500</b>

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

Charcoal	61,700	2 x 90 Kg bags	123,400
Soap (Lifebuoy)	2,500	10 tablets	25,000
Wash soap (Boom)	4,400	4 x 400 g	17,600
Jelly (e.g., Vaseline)	8,800	1 x 500 ml	8,800
Electricity (medium density)	53,000	300 units	53,000
Water & Sanitation (med - fixed)	114,530		114,530
Housing (medium density)	1,100,000		1,100,000
<b>Sub-total</b>			<b>K1, 442,330</b>

## Total for Basic Needs Basket

**K2, 226,930**

Totals from previous months	Jul	Aug 08	Sep 08	Oct 08	Nov 08	Dec 08	Jan 09	Feb 09	Mar 09	Apr 09	May 09	Jun 09
Amount	1,893,150	1,834,100	1,828,100	1,854,850	1,914,450	1,934,950	2,186,980	2,199,880	2,213,930	2,219,230	2,240,280	2,168,730

## (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	K5,600
Grades 10-12 (User+PTA/year)	K500,000 – K720,000	Chelston-Town	K6,800
School Uniform (grades 8-12)	K90,000 – K180,000	Matero-Town	K5,000
Health (clinic)		Fuel (cost at the pump)	
3 Month Scheme (per person)	K5, 000	Petrol (per litre)	K5, 818
No Scheme Emergency Fee	K5, 500	Diesel (per litre)	K5, 417
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	Pieceworker on a Farm
Pay Slip	K1,145,300 to K1,631,600	K1,121,000 to K2,624,000	K300,000 to K750,000	K915,000 to K1,480,000	645,326 (between October 2004 and January 2005)	K3,000 to K15,000 per day

This survey was conducted on 27<sup>th</sup> & 28 July 2009 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 July Basic Needs Basket is approximately **US\$438** based upon an average middle exchange rate of 5080 Kwacha per US\$ at the end of July