

# JCTR BASIC NEEDS BASKET: LUSAKA

April 2007

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

| Commodity               | Kwacha | Quantity       | Total           |
|-------------------------|--------|----------------|-----------------|
| Mealie meal (breakfast) | 35,400 | 3 x 25 Kg bags | 106,200         |
| Beans                   | 7,200  | 2 Kgs          | 14,400          |
| Kapenta (Siavonga)      | 45,000 | 2 Kgs          | 90,000          |
| Dry Fish                | 34,100 | 1 Kg           | 34,100          |
| Meat (mixed cut)        | 15,400 | 4 Kgs          | 61,600          |
| Eggs                    | 5,600  | 2 Units        | 11,200          |
| Vegetables (greens)     | 2,800  | 7.5 Kgs        | 21,000          |
| Tomato                  | 2,400  | 4 Kgs          | 9,600           |
| Onion                   | 2,100  | 4 Kgs          | 8,400           |
| Milk (fresh)            | 8,000  | 1 x 2 litres   | 8,000           |
| Cooking oil             | 15,100 | 2 x 2 litres   | 30,200          |
| Bread                   | 2,400  | 1 loaf/day     | 72,000          |
| Sugar                   | 4,500  | 8 Kgs          | 36,000          |
| Salt                    | 1,900  | 1 Kg           | 1,900           |
| Tea (leaves)            | 10,000 | 1 x 500 g      | 10,000          |
| <b>Sub-total</b>        |        |                | <b>K514,600</b> |

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

|                                  |         |                |                   |
|----------------------------------|---------|----------------|-------------------|
| Charcoal                         | 52,500  | 2 x 90 Kg bags | 105,000           |
| Soap (Lifebuoy)                  | 1,300   | 10 tablets     | 13,000            |
| Wash soap (Boom)                 | 2,600   | 4 x 400 g      | 10,400            |
| Jelly (e.g., Vaseline)           | 6,200   | 1 x 500 ml     | 6,200             |
| Electricity (medium density)     | 113,000 |                | 113,000           |
| Water & Sanitation (med - fixed) | 88,500  |                | 88,500            |
| Housing (medium density)         | 700,000 |                | 700,000           |
| <b>Sub-total</b>                 |         |                | <b>K1,036,100</b> |

**Total for Basic Needs Basket** **K1,550,700**

| Totals from previous months | Apr 06    | May 06    | Jun 06    | July 06   | Aug 06    | Sep 06    | Oct 06    | Nov 06    | Dec 06    | Jan 07    | Feb 07    | Mar 07    |
|-----------------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| Amount                      | 1,408,700 | 1,421,850 | 1,379,650 | 1,376,300 | 1,421,650 | 1,450,250 | 1,422,950 | 1,436,400 | 1,442,350 | 1,541,050 | 1,543,650 | 1,560,050 |

## (C) SOME OTHER ADDITIONAL COSTS

| Item                         | Kwacha              | Item                             | Kwacha |
|------------------------------|---------------------|----------------------------------|--------|
| Education                    |                     | Transport (bus fare round trip): |        |
| Grades 8-9 (User+PTA/year)   | K250,000 – K270,000 | Chilenje-Town                    | K4,800 |
| Grades 10-12 (User+PTA/year) | K300,000 – K410,000 | Chelston-Town                    | K5,400 |
| School Uniform (grades 8-12) | K70,000 – K180,000  | Matero-Town                      | K4,200 |
| Health (clinic)              |                     | Fuel (cost at the pump)          |        |
| 3 Month Scheme (per person)  | K5,000              | Petrol (per litre)               | K6,469 |
| No Scheme Emergency Fee      | K5,500              | Diesel (per litre)               | K5,539 |
| Mosquito Net (private)       | K15,000 – K20,000   | Paraffin (per litre)             | K4,304 |

**“I hope the 16% salary increment for civil servants will be effected soon we are tired of tightening our belts” – Lusaka Teacher**

## (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 | K672,000 to K1,193,000 | K748,000 to K2,105,000 | K250,000 to K750,000     | K653,000 to K1,190,000     | 645,326 (between October 2004 and January 2005)     | K3,000 to K15,000 per day |

*This survey was conducted on 28<sup>th</sup> to 30<sup>th</sup> April 2007 by the Social Conditions Research Project of the Jesuit Centre for Theological Reflection. Average prices were calculated on the basis of prices gathered from retail outlets at Northmead, Town Centre (Shoprite), City Market, Chawama, Chainta, Kabwata, Matero and schools, clinics/hospitals around Lusaka. The April Basic Needs Basket is approximately US\$375 based upon an average middle exchange rate of 4130 Kwacha per US\$ at the end of April.*

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