

# JCTR BASIC NEEDS BASKET: LUSAKA

December 2006

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

Commodity	Kwacha	Quantity	Total
Mealie meal (breakfast)	33,300	3 x 25 Kg bags	99,900
Beans	6,000	2 Kgs	12,000
Kapenta (Siavonga)	30,000	2 Kgs	60,000
Dry Fish	43,300	1 Kg	43,300
Meat (mixed cut)	15,400	4 Kgs	61,600
Eggs	5,000	2 Units	10,000
Vegetables (greens)	1,700	7.5 Kgs	12,750
Tomato	2,500	4 Kgs	10,000
Onion	2,600	4 Kgs	10,400
Milk (fresh)	8,300	1 x 2 litres	8,300
Cooking oil	14,700	2 x 2 litres	29,400
Bread	2,400	1 loaf/day	72,000
Sugar	4,500	8 Kgs	36,000
Salt	1,600	1 Kg	1,600
Tea (leaves)	9,000	1 x 500 g	9,000
<b>Sub-total</b>			<b>K476,250</b>

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

Charcoal	43,000	2 x 90 Kg bags	86,000
Soap (Lifebuoy)	1,300	10 tablets	13,000
Wash soap (Boom)	2,500	4 x 400 g	10,000
Jelly (e.g., Vaseline)	5,600	1 x 500 ml	5,600
Electricity (medium density)	113,000		113,000
Water (medium density)	88,500		88,500
Housing (medium density)	650,000		650,000
<b>Sub-total</b>			<b>K966,100</b>

Total for Basic Needs Basket

**K1,442,350**

Totals from previous months	Dec 05	Jan 06	Feb 05	Mar 06	Apr 06	May 06	Jun 06	July 06	Aug 06	Sep 06	Oct 06	Nov 06
Amount	1,368,700	1,415,650	1,413,150	1,408,050	1,408,700	1,421,850	1,379,650	1,376,300	1,421,650	1,450,250	1,422,950	1,436,400

## (C) SOME OTHER ADDITIONAL COSTS

Item	Kwacha	Item	Kwacha
Education (PTA/user fee per year)		Health (clinic / hospital fee)	
Upper Basic (grades 8-9)	K220,000-K350,000	Monthly Scheme (per person)	K1,500
Secondary (grades 10-12)	K220,000-K380,000	No Scheme Emergency Fee	K8,000
Transport (bus fare round trip):		Fuel (cost at the pump)	
Chilenje-Town	K3,800	Petrol (per litre)	K5,394
Chelston-Town	K4,400	Diesel (per litre)	K4,959
Matero-Town	K3,600	Paraffin (per litre)	K3,938

“Tibvutika maningi, Boma iyenela kuika nzeru pakusamalila nzika za chalo” – Resident in Mandevu

## (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	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 27<sup>th</sup> to 28<sup>th</sup> December 2006 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 December Basic Needs Basket is approximately **US\$330** based upon an average middle exchange rate of **4375 Kwacha per US\$** at the end of December.

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