

**CFSC BASIC NEEDS BASKET BASKET: LILONGWE, ZOMBA, BLANTYRE, MZUZU, MANGOCHI AND KARONGA NOVEMBER, 2020**

**(A) COST OF BASIC FOOD ITEMS FOR A HOUSEHOLD SIZE OF SIX PEOPLE IN**

| ITEM  | Lilongwe |                | Zomba  |                | Blantyre |                | Mzuzu  |                | Karonga |                | Mangochi |                |
|---|----------|----------------|--------|----------------|----------|----------------|--------|----------------|---------|----------------|----------|----------------|
|   |          |                |        |                |          |                |        |                |         |                |          |                |
| Maize                                       | 9,929    | 19,858         | 11,200 | 22,400         | 10,000   | 20,000         | 8,917  | 17,834         | 7,500   | 15,000         | 11,000   | 22,000         |
| Milling (Including Grinding)                | 336      | 4,704          | 475    | 6,650          | 250      | 3,500          | 375    | 5,250          | 700     | 9,800          | 500      | 7,000          |
| Beans (0.8kg/day) 8 Days                    | 950      | 6,080          | 1,157  | 7,405          | 821      | 5,254          | 1,092  | 6,989          | 700     | 4,480          | 800      | 5,120          |
| Dry Usipa (250g/day) 4 days                 | 3,750    | 3,750          | 2,571  | 2,571          | 7,714    | 7,714          | 3,500  | 3,500          | 3,950   | 3,950          | 5,667    | 5,667          |
| Dry Utaka/Mcheni (200g/day) 4               | 4,250    | 3,400          | 3,429  | 2,743          | 7,000    | 5,600          | 7,200  | 5,760          | 3,000   | 2,400          | 6,167    | 4,934          |
| Kapenta (200g/day) 4 days                   | 6,875    | 5,500          | 4,457  | 3,566          | 9,571    | 7,657          | 3,500  | 2,800          | 6,514   | 5,211          | 5,500    | 4,400          |
| Beef(1 kg/day) 4 days                       | 2,250    | 9,000          | 2,343  | 9,372          | 2,343    | 9,372          | 2,500  | 10,000         | 2,000   | 8,000          | 2,433    | 9,732          |
| Eggs (12/day) 4 days                        | 83       | 3,984          | 83     | 3,984          | 100      | 4,800          | 100    | 4,800          | 95      | 4,560          | 100      | 4,800          |
| Rape (750g/day) for 30 days                 | 390      | 8,775          | 371    | 8,348          | 351      | 7,898          | 387    | 8,708          | 500     | 11,250         | 537      | 12,083         |
| Tomato ( 0.5 Kg/day) 30 days                | 425      | 6,375          | 393    | 5,895          | 671      | 10,065         | 837    | 12,555         | 600     | 9,000          | 743      | 11,145         |
| Onion (116g/day) 30 days                    | 565      | 1,978          | 629    | 2,202          | 650      | 2,275          | 608    | 2,128          | 850     | 2,975          | 1,167    | 4,085          |
| Fresh Milk (250ml/day) 30 days              | 291      | 4,365          | 316    | 4,740          | 307      | 4,605          | 390    | 5,850          | 370     | 5,550          | 300      | 4,500          |
| Kazinga Cooking oil                         | 1,488    | 4,464          | 1,529  | 4,587          | 1,393    | 4,179          | 1,167  | 3,501          | 1,375   | 4,125          | 1,400    | 4,200          |
| Bread (5 bkfsts / wk) 20 days               | 450      | 9,000          | 430    | 8,600          | 439      | 8,780          | 450    | 9,000          | 500     | 10,000         | 450      | 9,000          |
| Sugar (2 Kgs /Week)                         | 788      | 6,304          | 816    | 6,528          | 813      | 6,504          | 813    | 6,504          | 850     | 6,800          | 833      | 6,664          |
| Kitchen Salt                                | 323      | 323            | 346    | 346            | 257      | 257            | 480    | 480            | 390     | 390            | 400      | 400            |
| Tea leaves (Chisangalalo)                   | 93       | 3,720          | 134    | 5,360          | 50       | 2,000          | 100    | 4,000          | 70      | 2,800          | 125      | 5,000          |
| Cassava /potatoes (2Kgx2Bkfst/)             | 269      | 4,304          | 213    | 3,408          | 279      | 4,464          | 231    | 3,696          | 244     | 3,904          | 200      | 3,200          |
| <b>Sub-total</b>                            |          | <b>105,884</b> |        | <b>108,704</b> |          | <b>114,924</b> |        | <b>113,354</b> |         | <b>110,195</b> |          | <b>123,929</b> |
| <b>(B) COST OF ESSENTIAL NON-FOOD ITEMS</b> |          |                |        |                |          |                |        |                |         |                |          |                |
| Charcoal (50 kgs)                           | 10,356   | 20,712         | 12,764 | 25,528         | 13,429   | 26,858         | 12,083 | 24,166         | 7,300   | 14,600         | 7,500    | 15,000         |
| Protex                                      | 425      | 4,250          | 456    | 4,560          | 447      | 4,470          | 488    | 4,880          | 275     | 2,750          | 450      | 4,500          |
| Boom  | 375      | 3,000          | 380    | 3,040          | 357      | 2,856          | 458    | 3,664          | 575     | 4,600          | 400      | 3,200          |
| Clere Body Lotion                           | 541      | 1,082          | 559    | 1,118          | 513      | 1,026          | 621    | 1,242          | 700     | 1,400          | 500      | 1,000          |
| Vaseline Blue Seal                          | 788      | 1,576          | 799    | 1,598          | 836      | 1,672          | 763    | 1,066          | 850     | 1,700          | 800      | 1,600          |
| Electricity                                 | 9,596    | 9,596          | 7,405  | 7,405          | 13,386   | 13,386         | 5,892  | 5,892          | 4,849   | 4,849          | 8,187    | 8,187          |
| Running Water (meter)                       | 10,532   | 10,532         | 7,603  | 7,603          | 10,379   | 10,379         | 5,857  | 5,857          | 6,713   | 6,713          | 8,344    | 8,344          |
| Housing (3 bedroom)                         | 51,752   | 51,752         | 40,741 | 40,741         | 47,902   | 47,902         | 24,773 | 24,773         | 19,117  | 19,117         | 32,844   | 32,844         |
| <b>Sub-total</b>                            |          | <b>102,500</b> |        | <b>91,593</b>  |          | <b>108,549</b> |        | <b>71,540</b>  |         | <b>55,729</b>  |          | <b>74,675</b>  |
| <b>Total Basic Needs</b>                    |          | <b>208,384</b> |        | <b>200,297</b> |          | <b>223,473</b> |        | <b>184,894</b> |         | <b>165,924</b> |          | <b>198,604</b> |

**(C) SOME OTHER ADDITIONAL COSTS**

|                                    | Lilongwe  | Zomba  | Blantyre | Mzuzu  | Karonga | Mangochi |        |  |  |  |                              |
|------------------------------------|---|--------|----------|--------|---------|----------|--------|--|--|--|------------------------------|
| <b>Education</b>                   |   |        |          |        |         |          |        |  |  |  |                              |
| Secondary (fees) per year          | 31,982  | 16,455 | 21,041   | 37,500 | 37,001  |          | 27,369 |  |  |  | Fuel (cost at the pump)      |
| Primary (GPF) per year             | 1,575   | 4,500  | 1,955    | 5,955  | 4,573   |          | 4,573  |  |  |  | Diesel (per litre) K664.80   |
| Uniform/shoes (Primary) per year   | 11,753  | 17,041 | 21,110   | 17,699 | 12,985  |          | 12,985 |  |  |  | Petrol (per litre) K690.50   |
| Uniform/shoes (Secondary) per year | 18,415  | 20,810 | 26,251   | 20,934 | 19,236  |          | 16,105 |  |  |  | Paraffin (per litre) K441.70 |
| Other (pens, books, etc.) per term | 11,826  | 6,552  | 7,876    | 9,363  | 8,620   |          | 17,740 |  |  |  |                              |
| Minibus fare to town and back      | LL: MK1000; BT: MK700; ZA: MK400 – MK400; MZ: MK450 – MK500 |        |          |        |         |          |        |  |  |  |                              |

| Average     | Dec, 2019      | Jan, 2020      | Feb,2020       | Mar,2020       | Apri           | May,202        | June,202       | July,2020      | August,2       | Sept,202       | Oct,           | Nov,2020       |
|-------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| Amount (MK) | <b>211,197</b> | <b>223,173</b> | <b>221,391</b> | <b>212,883</b> | <b>203,695</b> | <b>202,715</b> | <b>197,980</b> | <b>164,316</b> | <b>192,644</b> | <b>194,253</b> | <b>198,917</b> | <b>198,585</b> |

NB: 1 USA dollar (\$) = K786 Malawian Kwacha (MK). The Social Conditions Research Programm of the Centre for Social Concern Conducted these surveys from 22<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> November, 2020 in the cities of Blantyre, Zomba, Lilongwe, Mzuzu, Karonga and Mango

Center for Social Concern, P.O. Box 40049, Lilongwe, Malawi Tel: 265-1-715-632 Fax: 265-1-716-136: [director@cfscmafr.org](mailto:director@cfscmafr.org) or [admin@cfscmafr.org](mailto:admin@cfscmafr.org)

**NOTE: The data on electricity, housing, water and other additional costs is collected and analysed on quarterly basis**