



Centre for Social Concern

CFSC-RURAL BASIC NEEDS BASKETS: TAs KHONGONI(LL), TAMBALA(DZ),MLUMBE(ZA)

CALORIE INTAKE and COST OF FOOD ITEMS FOR A FAMILY OF SIX

A. IDEAL FOOD ITEMS	Month								Okt-18	
	IDEAL	TA KHONGONI			TA TAMBALA		TA MLUMBE		TA MMBELWA	
ITEMS	Ideal	Unit Price	Total	Unit Price	Total	Unit Price	Total	Unit Price	Total	
Maize	50	100	5000	100	5000	160	8000	90	4500	
Rice	20	1000	20000	800	16000	800	16000	850	17000	
Sugar	6	850	5100	950	5700	850	5100	900	5400	
Beans	7	1000	7000	500	3500	1000	7000	600	4200	
Eggs	40	90	3600	90	3600	100	4000	100	4000	
Goat meat	5	2000	10000	2000	10000	2400	12000	1800	9000	
Tomato	27	200	5400	400	10800	200	5400	400	10800	
Mustard	15	220	3300	110	1650	110	1650	200	3000	
Cooking Oil	3	1000	3000	1300	3900	1400	4200	1100	3300	
Bananas	350	30	10500	20	7000	35	12250	50	17500	
Salt	1	300	300	260	260	360	360	300	300	
Totals			73200		67410		75960		79000	
Kcal			1884		1692		1445		2014	
IDEAL			TA KHONGONI		TA TAMBALA		TA MLUMBE		TA MMBELWA	
NON-FOOD ITEMS 1	Ideal	Unit Price	Total	Unit Price	Total	Unit Price	Total	Unit Price	Total	
Butex	4	200	800	200	800	350	1400	300	1200	
Nirma	15	120	1800	120	1800	120	1800	200	3000	
Clere	3	350	1050	500	1500	350	1050	350	1050	
Glycerine	3	150	450	180	540	150	450	250	750	
Body care	1	1200	1200	1000	1000	2000	2000	800	800	
Airtime	1	4500	4500	4500	4500	4500	4500	4500	4500	
Phone Charging	10	100	1000	100	1000	100	1000	100	1000	
Charcoal	2	2500	5000	3000	6000	3500	7000	2000	4000	

Batteries	9	150	1350	150	1350	150	1350	400	3600
Matches	9	30	270	50	450	30	270	50	450
Kukonola	5	150	750	250	1250	500	2500	350	1750
Milling	5	150	750	250	1250	500	2500	350	1750
Bicycles	1	2900	2900	2900	2900	2900	2900	2900	2900
TOTALS			21820		24340		28720		26750

C									
MONTHLY INCOME		TA KHONGONI		TA TAMBALA		TA MLUMBE		TA MMBELWA	
Ganyu		5000		4280		500		1000	
Small business		0		409				0	
Loans from VSL		0		1400				0	
Loans from others		0		4630				0	
Usury/Katapila		0		1000				0	
Crop sales		4000		1200		3750		11200	
Livestock sales		0		0				3500	
Remittances		0		0				3000	
Wage Labour		0		0				4000	
Forest products		0		0				0	
Selling planks		0		0				0	
Firewood for selling		0		0				0	
TOTALS			9000		12919		5239		22695

Actual Non-Food Items									
Expenditure		TA KHONGONI		TA TAMBALA		TA MLUMBE		TA MMBELWA	
Matches		45		42		250		52	
Torch		300		126		300		250	
Batteries		408		50		260		0	
Firewood		400		26		400		0	
Ufresh		100		300		150		436	
Nirma		0		40		700		348	
Lifebouy		320		90		0		0	
Boom		555		185		0		132	

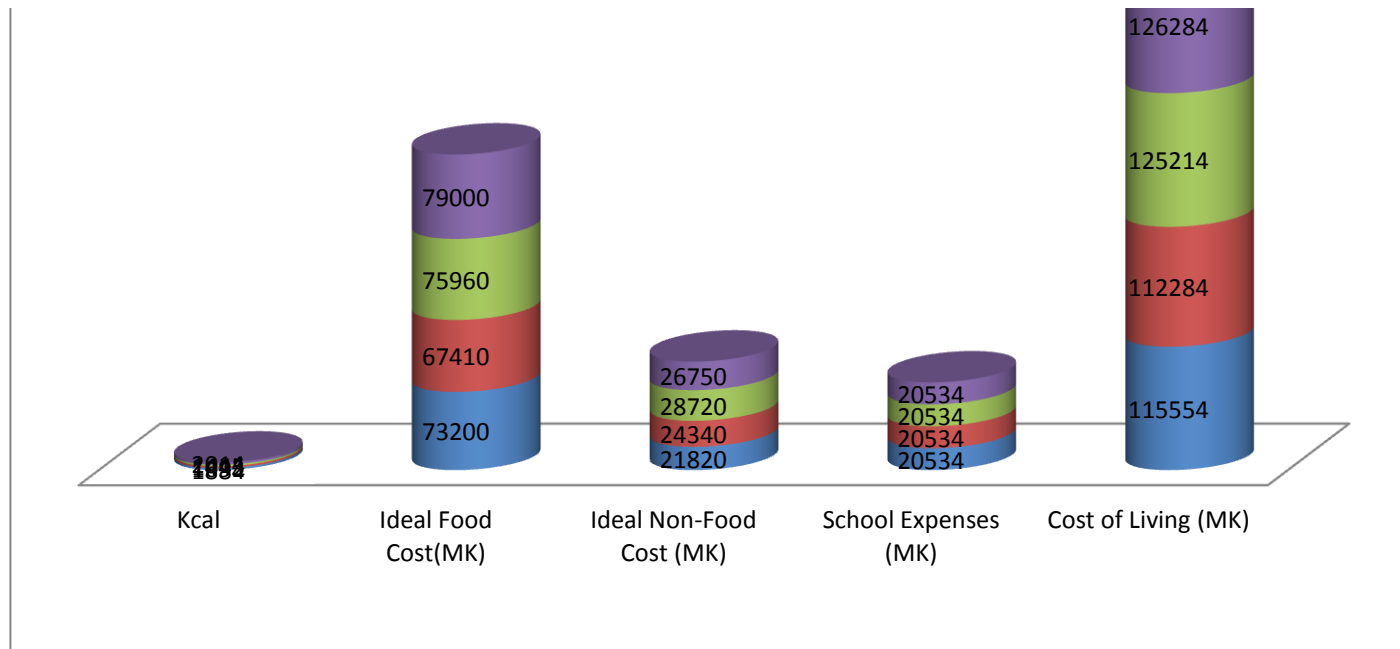
Clere			125		75	150	0
Geisha			70		55	0	0
Protex			495		80	0	187
Milling			155		1150	0	0
Glycerine			0		251	0	0
Azam			772.5		250	0	1190
Body care Jelly			503		47	0	1007
Church offerings			200		75	0	120
Community contri						0	0
Medication						5	0
Transport						0	0
TOTALS			4449		2842	1815	3722

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SCHOOL EXPENSES 20,534

		TA KHONGONI	TA TAMBALA	TA MLUMBE	TA MMBELWA
Kcal		1884	1692	1445	2014
Ideal Food Cost		73,200	67,410	75,960	79,000
Ideal Non Food Cost		21,820	24,340	28,720	26,750
School Expenses		20,534	20,534	20,534	20,534
Cost of Living		115,554	112,284	125,214	126,284

■ TA Khongoni ■ TA Tambala ■ TA Mlumbe ■ TA M'mbelwa





COMMENTS/SUMMARY

Average Calorie intake/ person /day

Actual consumption by households, obtained from separate analysis, was found that, none of the households managed to consume enough calories of 2400 as recommended by WHO.

This is one indicator of household food insecurity among rural people. People with inadequate food intake are unhealthy. Unhealthy citizens will lead into unhealthy nation and this has a great bearing on national economy due to low productivity.

Ideal Food Items Cost

Prices for the ideal food items from six food groups, required for a family of 6, that gives approximately a total of 2400 calories, were collected at the end of October 2018 from surrounding markets.

Basing on this ideal food list, food cost was calculated. It was found out that, in an ideal situation, TA Mlumbe households were supposed to have MK78,125 to buy enough food to give them an average of 2400 calories but the income was only K4,250.

Ideal Non-Food Cost + School expenses

Prices for the ideal Non-Food items required for a family of 6 were also collected from the surrounding markets. Basing on these Ideal Non-Food items on the list, the cost for these was calculated to find the ideal Non-Food Items cost. This also includes

school expenses and the cost of school expenses (K20,534) is uniform across. This is because average mark was found when we surveyed expenses from government owned primary and community day secondary schools with an assumption that a household has 2 pupils at primary and 2 at secondary level and that since the expenses are incurred on term basis (3 months) it was calculated in such a way that the expenses are incurred on monthly basis (cost incurred in a term were divided by 3). The survey indicated that households from TA Mlumbe (had it been that they had enough money), ideally, they could have incurred more expenses (K31,500 + K20,534) than other areas to pay for ideal non-food items for a family of 6 during the month of October

The Cost of Living vs Monthly Income

The Cost of Living = Ideal Food Items Cost + Ideal Non-Food Items Cost + School Expenses

In the month of October 2018, the cost of living in TA Mlumbe in Zomba was highest at MK130,159 while TA Tambala was lowest at MK112,254. This means that households of TA Mlumbe were supposed to have an income of K130,159 to buy food worthy K78,125 that would give them 2400 Kilocalories, buy enough nonfood items worthy K31,500 and pay school expenses at K20534 but a household got only MK5,239 against the cost of living of MK130,159.

This MK5,239 represents 4% of MK130,159, with a gap of 96%. With this household economy, a rural household cannot lead a decent life and live with dignity.

NB: 1 USA Dollar (\$) = 730 Malawian Kwacha (MK)

The Social Conditions Research Programme of the CfSC conducted these surveys during the month of October 2018 in these TAS: Khongoni in Lilongwe, Tambala in Dedza, M'mbelwa in Mzimba and Mlumbe in Zomba.

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