Kilombero Sugar Partners with Ifakara Bakery and Free Bread Initiative to Support Vulnerable Communities.

**27**<sup>th</sup> **November 2025**, **IFAKARA**, **MOROGORO**. Kilombero Sugar has entered into a three-year collaboration with Ifakara Bakery and the Free Bread Initiative, donating over 23 tons of sugar to support a community-driven program that provides free breakfast and bread to vulnerable groups. This initiative aims to address food insecurity among school children and hospital patients undergoing treatment.

The Free Bread Fund Initiative, launched in 2001 and managed by the Franciscan Sisters of Charity through the Upendo Sisters' Bakery, has served the Kilombero District community for over 24 years. The program currently supports more than 25 units, including orphanages, schools, and hospitals, benefiting adolescents, orphans, and patients with diverse needs.

As part of this collaboration, Kilombero Sugar has committed 23 tons of sugar donation over the next three years: 2025/26: 6,000 kg, 2026/27: 8,000 kg, 2027/28: 9,000 kg.

Speaking at the handover ceremony in Ifakara, Mr. Derick Stanley, Corporate Affairs Director at Kilombero Sugar Company, stated: "We are proud to join this initiative as it aligns with our corporate social responsibility to support the communities we serve. The model adopted by Ifakara Bakery and the Free Bread Fund ensures transparency and measurable impact, making it easier to reach those who need it most."

He added that Kilombero Sugar Company will continue monitoring and evaluating the program's impact, with plans to expand its reach to surrounding schools, further supporting education and community well-being.

Sr. Senorina Lukwachala, Matron of the project and head of the Catholic Sisters, expressed gratitude:

"Since its inception, this initiative has been a blessing. Initially, the needs were modest and supported by families in England, but demand has grown significantly. We thank Kilombero Sugar Company for stepping in to support this noble cause."

On behalf of Bishop of the Catholic Diocese of Ifakara Fr. Ignas Kilolelo, Diocese secretary praised diocese the initiative, noting:

"This program reflects our shared commitment to serving those in need. We welcome more collaborations from stakeholders like Kilombero Sugar to work together for this noble cause."

Ms. Pilly Kitwana, Ifakara Town Council director representing Kilombero District Commissioner, commended the partnership:

"The government appreciates stakeholders who contribute to addressing community needs. Today's support from Kilombero Sugar demonstrates the power of collaboration in tackling complex challenges."

Receiving the first 6,000 kg of sugar, Ms. Nasra Juma from St. Elite Day Care Centre said:

"This donation came at the right time and will greatly help us create a conducive learning environment. We welcome similar initiatives from other stakeholders."

## For Media Inquires

Victor Byemelwa

Communication and Stakeholder Relation Manager

Vbyemelwa@illovo.co.tz

0745048868