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On Thursday, May 31, 2018, Dr. George Obiero (Director, CEBIB), Dr. Rachel Ikawa, and Bernard Otieno, the Managing Director (Ag) [South Nyanza Sugar Company Limited \(Sony Sugar\)](#) [8] deliberated on the strategic roles of CEBIB in capacity building for the industrial sector in Kenya. The MD, who paid a courtesy visit to his alma mater, expressed his contentment with the holistic and practical approach of training graduates at the University of Nairobi (UoN), citing the exemplary performance of University alumni employed by the sugar company. He was happy to note that quite a number employees of the sugar company are registered for various degree courses within the UoN in line with strategic capacity building needs of the company. It was noted that time is ripe for them enroll for postgraduate training to enhance company employees' skills, enhance operational efficiency, and productivity.

This necessitates closer ties between institutions of higher learning, especially those that offer specialised training in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM), and the industrial sector. Capacity building for the workforce in the agricultural, and manufacturing industry, aimed at equipping stakeholders with knowledge on the current global trends in the sectors is an important



contribution towards the realisation of the government's Big Four agenda.

The managers also discussed opportunities for collaborative engagement such as training, research activities, and collaborative grant application.



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