

Small Particles, Big Issues: PRIORITYze DEI

Issue 39 30/04/2025: Call for Participants – “EmpowerMENTOR by PRIORITY” Mentorship Program

Dear all,

We hope this email finds you well.

As a community committed to fostering equity, collaboration, and academic excellence, we believe that mentorship plays a pivotal role in shaping inclusive and dynamic research environments. Mentorship programs are more than just professional development tools—they are opportunities to bridge generational, geographic, and disciplinary divides. They cultivate mutual learning, support career progression, and strengthen our shared values of diversity, equity, and inclusion.

By creating spaces where experience meets curiosity and where guidance meets innovation, we enable researchers at all stages of their careers to thrive. These relationships empower both mentors and mentees to reflect, grow, and co-create a more connected and supportive academic ecosystem.

With this spirit in mind, we are excited to invite you to join the DEI Group initiative “**EmpowerMENTOR by PRIORITY**”, a new mentorship program designed to foster professional growth, mutual learning, and a stronger sense of community within our network.

A mentorship program connects individuals at different career stages to support professional development, exchange knowledge, and broaden perspectives. In **EmpowerMENTOR**, mentees will have the opportunity to learn from more experienced colleagues (mentors), while mentors will benefit from fresh insights and the chance to contribute to the next generation of scholars.

The main goals of this initiative are to:

- Promote **diversity and inclusion** across career stages, geographic regions (ITC/non-ITC), and gender identities;
- Support mentees in navigating academic and professional challenges;
- Create meaningful, one-on-one connections that strengthen the PRIORITY network.

The program is structured around three main moments:

1. **Kick-off meeting (late May 2025)** – A virtual session to introduce all participants, clarify roles and expectations, and set the tone for the mentoring journey.
2. **Three individual mentoring sessions (June–July 2025)** – Flexible, one-to-one meetings scheduled by each mentor-mentee pair according to their availability and goals.
3. **Closing meeting (late July 2025)** – A final group session to reflect on the experience, share insights, and collect best practices for future editions.

The programme will last three months.

We are now looking for enthusiastic **mentees** and committed **mentors** who are ready to engage in this enriching exchange and contribute to a more inclusive academic environment.

If you are interested in joining as a mentor or mentee, please complete this short application form by **9 May 2025**:

[Application Form](#)

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Chiara Leggerini chiara.leggerini@unibs.it.

Let's work together to make **EmpowerMENTOR** a valuable experience of collaboration, learning, and inclusion for the CA20101 - PRIORITY community.

Best regards,
Mariasole and Camilla
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