Doing the mentoring alongside your everyday work takes effort but that’s exactly why it’s good. For instance, when else do you get the chance to take a step back for two entire days and visualise your network? Or to concentrate on your own leadership skills? Most of the workshops taught us something that we could use and put into practice immediately.

Dörte Heger (Mentee), RWI – Leibniz-Institute for Economic Research

We mentors also benefit from this programme. Lots of people think that if you’ve reached a certain age or professional status, then you’ve learned everything there is to learn. On the contrary: you can and should receive lifelong guidance – both professionally and personally. And the Leibniz programme is exemplary for this.

Michael Leitzmann (Mentor), Professor for Epidemiology and Preventive Medicine, University of Regensburg

I encountered the Mentoring Programme at the ideal moment of my career. As a fresh post-doctoral researcher, I was taking over more and more (leading) tasks at the time. The workshops, the exchange with other mentees and the tandem with my mentor helped and motivated me to face these new challenges.

Nele Kampa (Mentee), Leibniz Institute for Science and Mathematics Education, Kiel

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Aim
Through the Leibniz Mentoring Programme the Leibniz Association supports highly qualified female post-doctoral researchers on their path to obtaining a professorship or some other leading position. It supports the participants in managing their careers in a goal-driven way, and helps them expand their subject-specific networks and take on managerial tasks with confidence.

Target group
The Leibniz Mentoring Programme is aimed at female academics in the orientation and consolidation phase after their doctorate, who are striving for a leading position in science, or in professional fields for which a scientific qualification is a prerequisite. They must belong to an institution of the Leibniz Association. The selection criteria are: excellent research accomplishments and the recognisable pursuit of a leadership position in science and research.

Contents
- Structured and supervised mentoring partnership
- Seminars on the acquisition of key qualifications for future leaders, in particular in academia
- Seminar on European research funding in Brussels
- Essential fields of training: career strategies, managerial skills and research financing

Plus factors
- Certificate of acquired qualifications
- Access to the extensive Alumnae Network, annual network meetings
- Possibility of childcare during seminars

Call for applications, language, term
The programme is advertised annually and runs in German and English. One round lasts 17 month.

Information on the programme requirements, application documents and a detailed programme description can be found at www.leibniz-gemeinschaft.de/mentoring.

Accompanying offers exclusively for mentors
- An in-depth look at communication and leadership ideas and methods, in the context of both the tandem relationship and everyday leadership tasks
- Continuing professional support for tandem work
- Interdisciplinary network expansion