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Clelia Dispenza is Associate Professor of chemistry and functional nanomaterials at the University of Palermo, Italy, where she heads the bio nanomaterials and composites lab. Her research focuses on the design, synthesis and characterization of polymeric, composite and bio-hybrid materials as functional or structural elements for applications in healthcare, consumer products, smart packaging and aeronautics. Due to the multidisciplinary nature of her research, Ms Dispenza collaborates with experts from various industries and academic disciplines. She holds a PhD in Chemical Technologies and Advanced Materials.