



## Capacity building Initiative for PFAS

To enhance the expertise of ISO/IEC 17025 Technical Assessors  
at CSIR - Indian Institute of Toxicology Research (CSIR-IITR), Lucknow  
18-20 November 2024

The capacity-building initiative for PFAS (Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances) in food and water is being organized at CSIR - Indian Institute of Toxicology Research (CSIR-IITR), Lucknow, and is a crucial step in enhancing the expertise of ISO/IEC 17025 technical assessors. The initiative focuses on equipping assessors with the skills and knowledge to evaluate and ensure compliance with analytical standards related to PFAS contamination.

### Key aspects of the initiative include:

- 1. Focus on PFAS:** Addressing the emerging concerns of PFAS contamination in food and water, this program emphasizes the importance of harmonized methods for detection and quantification of these substances, vital for both regulatory compliance and public health.
- 2. Collaboration:** The initiative is being conducted in collaboration with key international and national bodies such as the India Section of AOAC International, GFORSS (Global Food Regulatory Science Society), Food Industry Asia (FIA), IUFoST (International Union of Food Science and Technology) and NABL (National Accreditation Board for Testing and Calibration Laboratories). This ensures a wide exchange of knowledge, best practices, and methodologies.
- 3. Technical Assessors Training:** Aimed at ISO/IEC 17025 technical assessors, the program builds their capacity to assess laboratories for PFAS testing, ensuring they can accurately evaluate laboratory competence, procedures, and adherence to standards.
- 4. Support from Abbott Nutrition:** With support from Abbott Nutrition, the initiative gains additional expertise and resources to enhance the effectiveness of the training program.

This initiative is pivotal in addressing the global challenges posed by PFAS, ensuring that India's technical assessors are well-prepared to tackle PFAS contamination in food and water, in alignment with international standards. This initiative will also help in the harmonization of analytical methods in India on the method performance criteria.

