



Demonstration Network and Metrics for Accelerating Adoption of Climate Smart Farming Practices

Project Overview

Scaling up soil health and other climate-smart agricultural practices is essential to improve the resilience of farms to climate-related threats. Climate-smart agriculture is a systems-based approach that requires localized adaptation across the diverse conditions of California agriculture. This project will demonstrate a range of climate-smart practices, such as cover cropping, reduced tillage, compost and mulch use, hedgerow planting, and irrigation system optimization on commercial farms throughout California. Specifically, the project will:

1. Extend the reach and capacity of the **California Farm Demonstration Network (CFDN)** to establish an enduring on-farm extension and research system that will help thousands of farmers adopt climate-smart practices and
2. Develop a research baseline and grower-informed recommendations for **soil health** and resilience indicators, to understand the extent to which soil health practices are helping farms be more climate-smart.

Key Features

- Farmer-led discovery and extension approaches
- Hub-and-spoke network to share learning across the state
- Farmer input on soil health assessment methods and information needs

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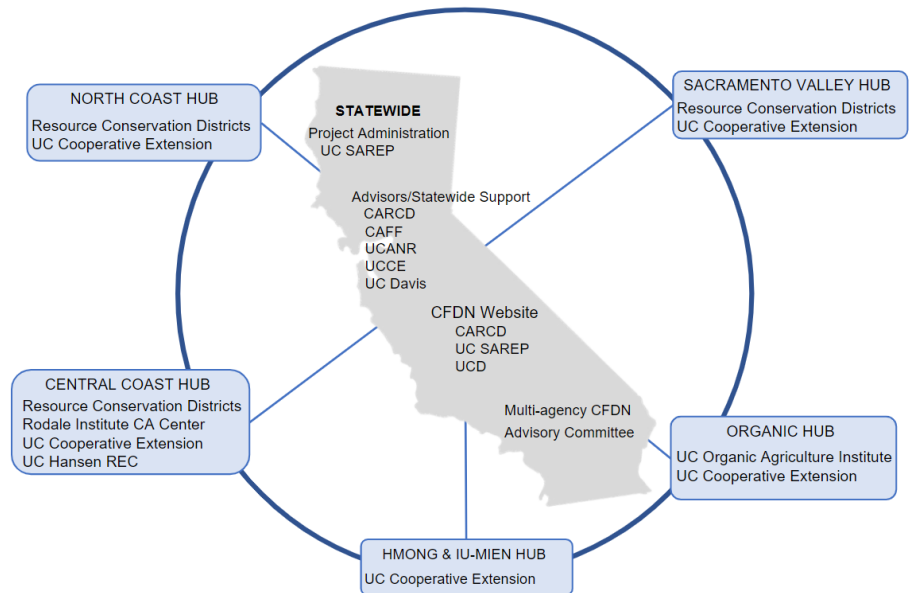


In May of 2017, the California Association of Resource Conservation Districts, USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service, California Farm Bureau Federation, California Department of Food and Agriculture, University of California at Davis, and University of California Agriculture and Natural Resources signed a [Memorandum of Understanding](#) to form the [California Farm Demonstration Network \(CFDN\)](#).

Vision: A thriving farmer-engaged demonstration network that continues to ensure California's global leadership in agriculture and land stewardship.



calfarmdemo.org



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