What are Workgroups?

What is a Workgroup? Workgroups (WGs) represent vibrant “Communities of Practice”. They connect people to plan and implement their research and extension around common problems or themes. (They may help members understand how better evaluate their impacts.)

Are Workgroups permanent? They should be nimble; responsive to the changing needs in California. After 3-years, if the need still exists, then groups can be easily extended.

Workgroup leadership? Leadership rotation (2-3 years) is encouraged to grow leadership skills in members. WGs should define a Chair and Co-Chair with clarity of responsibilities (e.g., sharing impact and leadership succession, etc.).

Who can join a Workgroup? Workgroups bring together Agricultural Experiment Station (AES) and Cooperative Extension (CE) personnel along with stakeholders and collaborators.

How do Workgroups meet? Meetings can be virtual or in-person (e.g., Increasingly, workgroups are meeting virtually (e.g., by Zoom), while others raise funds to bring people together). Limited funds are available for WGs to meet as part of Program Teams.

How do Workgroups fit with the other elements of UC ANR?

- How do WGs align with PTs? Program Teams link people at a higher level than workgroups; allowing people to network, share and learn across a broader range of distinct though related topics.

- Strategic Initiatives are the umbrellas - our highest level of aggregation - with the goal to unify, communicate and advocate for our broad range of work.

What does the SI UCA mean? See the figure (next page)