

Indigenous Procurement Strategy 2022-2025

2023 Update



Acknowledgement of Country

The University of Queensland (UQ) acknowledges the Traditional Owners and their custodianship of the lands on which UQ operates.

We pay our respects to their Ancestors and their descendants, who continue cultural and spiritual connections to Country.

We recognise their valuable contributions to Australian and global society.

Context

UQ can use its procurement spend to provide opportunities to strengthen relationships and understanding with the University's Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities. This supports an inclusive and empowering environment for all.

UQ Procurement will support these endeavours by providing opportunities and advice to UQ procurement co-ordinators and contract and supplier managers to:

- Engage respectfully with Indigenous businesses to build strong relationships
- Identify and remove barriers to Indigenous businesses being engaged by UQ
- Raising awareness in UQ's procurement and purchasing stakeholders of the opportunities available to engage with Indigenous businesses.

UQ's procurement co-ordinators are encouraged to include one or more Indigenous-owned enterprises in all competitive sourcing activities, including the most basic of seeking multiple quotes.

UQ's Indigenous Procurement Strategy is a "live" and evolving document. As our understanding, knowledge and resourcing changes, so too will the specific activities UQ undertakes to meet its commitment to embed reconciliation across its operations to achieve and implement a "Stretch" Reconciliation Action Plan by 2025.¹

Note: In the context of this Strategy, 'Indigenous' refers to Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islanders peoples from Australia.

2023 update

Since the Strategy's release in 2022, efforts were made to better understand reporting requirements and inclusions in order to both align with the [Queensland Indigenous Procurement Policy](#) and ensure Indigenous procurement spend is appropriately recognised.

Updates were made to the definition of an Indigenous business and inclusions in addressable spend to more appropriately recognise these in UQ systems. Timelines and other minor amendments were made to reflect changing resource availability.

¹ "Toward 2032 UQ Strategic Plan 2022-2025", p11

Targets

UQ's spend with Indigenous businesses (including identified secondary suppliers) over the last three financial years has fluctuated:

UQ Spend with Indigenous businesses - historical

UQ Financial Year	\$	% of addressable spend
2019	\$5.81m	0.59%
2020	\$1.54m	0.18%
2021	\$0.90m	0.11%

To stabilise this activity, the targets of addressable spend for the coming financial years are:

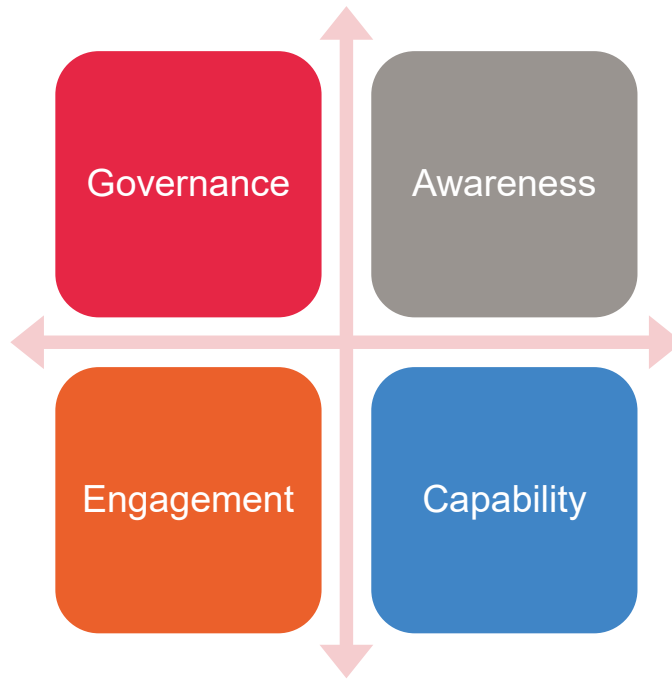
Addressable spend targets

UQ Financial Year	% of addressable spend
2022	2%
2023	3%
2024	4%

Note: analysis of addressable spend to include identification of products manufactured by Indigenous businesses, but purchased via distributors (e.g. via UQeMarket suppliers).

Initiatives

To ensure effective outcomes and impact, we will look at each potential initiative activity in specific dimensions of:



Activities

Governance

This dimension looks at barriers to the participation of Indigenous businesses in UQ sourcing activities.

Action detail	Time frame	Measure
<p><i>*extension of UQ's 2021-2022 RAP initiatives</i></p> <p>When updating UQ's procurement and payments policies, procedures and practices consider barriers to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander owned businesses supplying UQ with goods and services or otherwise engaging with UQ</p>	Continuous improvement.	Review and endorsement by UQ and external SMEs
Engage with Supply Nation, PASA Connect or other procurement professional associations to better understand what barriers to participation might look like and how to positively impact those barriers	Annually	Attendance by senior UQ procurement stakeholders in at least one relevant session each calendar year.

Action detail	Time frame	Measure
UQ will first look to engage with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander businesses for any goods or services that inherently relate to Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander culture	Immediate and ongoing	100% engagement of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander businesses for target expenditure
UQ Finance will undertake a review of payment strategies to identify any barriers to Indigenous peoples engaging meaningfully with UQ and receiving timely and appropriate payment for that engagement	Q2 2023	Identification and implementation of appropriate processes and governance artefacts to support timely and adequate payments
UQ will investigate the use of the Supply Nation Member Opportunity Board and adapt practices to communicate UQ procurement activities to Supply Nation members	Q1 2023 – complete analysis of Board and determine appropriate practices Q2 2023 – if use recommended, imbed usage	Usage of Board (assuming recommendation) in 50% of appropriate procurement activities by 1 December 2023

Awareness

Action detail	Time frame	Measure
Use knowledge of existing Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander suppliers to design and implement awareness campaign addressed to UQ procurement stakeholders	Continuous improvement	Increased expenditure by value and number of contracts/purchase orders with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander businesses
<i>*extension of UQ's 2021-2022 RAP initiatives</i> Implement inclusion of an icon in UQeMarket to identify products sourced from socially responsible businesses, including Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander businesses	Q1 2023	Move into production use of icon(s) – dependent on UQeMarket platform supplier implementing development into production Increased expenditure within UQeMarket on products manufactured by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander businesses
Use by UQ Procurement team of Reconciliation Week email signature	Continuous	80% of UQ Procurement team use of email signature

Capability

Action detail	Time frame	Measure
Attendance at Supply Nation or other socially responsible procurement training as opportunity arises	Annually	Attendance by at least one UQ Procurement staff member per year
Invitation to Supply Nation or other Indigenous procurement representative to present at UQ Finance Town Hall (or similar event)	Annually	Attendance for presentation
Delivery of workshop(s) to procurement specialists of UQ (UQ Procurement, ICT & P&F category teams) on specific topics as available via Supply Nation or other industry bodies	Once annually	Attendance of at least 5 procurement specialists annually

Engagement

Action detail	Time frame	Measure
<p><i>*extension of UQ's 2021-2022 RAP initiatives</i></p> <p>Establish and maintain ongoing commercial relationships with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander businesses</p>	Ongoing	<p>End 2022 – three commercial relationships</p> <p>End 2023 – five commercial relationships</p> <p>End 2024 – seven commercial relationships</p>
Maintain Supply Nation membership	Annually	Payment of membership fee by due date annually
Explore opportunity for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander business expo on UQ location(s)	End 2023	Hosting Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander business expo on UQ location(s) by mid-2024
Include in all procurement category management plans consideration of strategies to identify opportunities to increase engagement of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander businesses	Continuous improvement	All category management plans created or updated during the period to include explicit analysis of opportunities.

Definitions

Term	Definition
Indigenous business	<p>For the purposes of this Strategy, an Indigenous business may take the form of a company, partnership, incorporated association, trust, not-for-profit organisation or Indigenous Local Council.</p> <p>For reporting purposes, an Indigenous business must meet at least one of the below criteria:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> at least 50% or more owned by an Australian Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander person and registered or certified by at least one known and recognised Indigenous Business Directory, including but not limited to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Black Business Finder, Supply Nation, or The Office of the Registrar for Indigenous Corporations recognition as an Indigenous Local Council by the Queensland Government a not-for-profit with at least 50% of the board of directors of Australian Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander descent, or endorsed as an Indigenous business by the Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Indigenous Engagement).
Addressable spend	<p>In the context of the UQ IPS, addressable spend refers to the quantum of procurement expenditure on goods and/or services, that can conceivably be subject to the IPS. It does not include funds that are subject to inter-entity transfers, legislative payments, bank fees and charges, international travel etc.</p> <p>It also excludes categories of spend where UQ has no opportunity to engage an Indigenous business, e.g. categories where there are no Indigenous businesses registered with Supply Nation.</p>
Inherently related	<p>Goods and services inherently related to Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander culture may include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> goods or services based on Indigenous Knowledges or Culture or involving Indigenous Intellectual Property, services to be utilised within an Indigenous Local Council area or Community, or goods or services engaged in support of actions or deliverables of the UQ Reconciliation Action Plan. <p>These may include local Indigenous tours, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander products, art, literature, music, cultural competency training or giftware involving Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander knowledge.</p>
Supply Nation	<p>Supply Nation provides the leading database of verified Indigenous enterprises. Searches can be undertaken by business name, product,</p>

service, area or category. Supply Nation certified logos appear on supplier websites and branding.

Reporting and Review

Activity	Timeframe	Responsible
Review of Indigenous spend against targets	Quarterly	UQ Procurement
Review of delivery against general commitments	Quarterly	UQ Procurement
Review/update of Indigenous Procurement Strategy to improve outcomes and delivery to goals	Annually	UQ Procurement



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