



Our approach

We believe that both our business and the communities where we operate are strengthened through partnerships with local, Indigenous and diverse suppliers. One way we do this is through our procurement practices and an increased focus on stimulating local economies, creating jobs, and helping local businesses grow.

Our supply chain is crucial for our North American business performance. That is why ensuring a safe, responsible, innovative, and reliable supply of goods and services is essential for our success.

Buying local, Indigenous & diverse makes us stronger

We are committed to maximizing opportunities for US and Canadian suppliers to be part of our supply chain and strengthen the capability and sustainability of local, Indigenous & diverse suppliers to further develop local industry. One of our goals is to make it easier for local, Indigenous & diverse suppliers to compete for contracts and maximize local economic participation benefits.

We believe in our communities and on improving the way we work. We generally seek to take requirements to market. We do this primarily through tendering. As part of this process we consider a range of assessment criteria, including safety, technical, local, Indigenous and diverse criteria. If all criteria are as equally competitive, we will award to the following suppliers:

- Indigenous business¹
- Local businesses²
- Diverse businesses³
- Other businesses⁴

We also:

- **Promote sustainable business growth** and support business capability enhancement programs to build local industry strength.
- **Provide early** visibility of upcoming work opportunities enabling suppliers to express interest.
- **Engage with local, Indigenous & diverse suppliers** regarding registration on our Buy local Portal and submitting interest for work packages.
- **Offer** shorter payment terms to our small US and Canadian suppliers to ensure they are paid within 20 days of receipt of a valid invoice.

Our approach is complemented by our statement of business practice *The Way We Work* and *The Supplier Code of Conduct*, which can be viewed at www.riotinto.com/suppliers

Category definitions

¹ Indigenous business – means an organization, operating as a business, that is 50% or more owned by Indigenous peoples. It may take the form of a company, incorporated association, or trust. For clarity, a social enterprise or registered social investment may also be an Indigenous enterprise if it is operating as a business.

² Local businesses – means a non-Indigenous local business within the designated region of the location of the Rio Tinto Asset.

³ Diverse businesses – means an organization, operating as a business, that is 50% or more owned by:

- One (1) or several women
- a member of a minority: one (1) or several persons from African, Hispanic, MENA, Indian subcontinent and Asian Pacific descent and/or member of the LGBTQIA2S+ community and/or who is a veteran, and/or disabled person.

It may take the form of a company, incorporated association or trust. For clarity, a social enterprise or registered social investment may also be a diverse enterprise if it is operating as a business.

⁴ Other businesses – All other businesses that do not fit into any of the abovementioned classification segments shall be classified as “Other.”