



Partnering With Supply Nation-Certified Businesses



SNAPSHOT

As an Australian-owned and operated business, COS takes its commitment to promoting social responsibility seriously. We continue to partner with and expand existing relationships with First Nations businesses that have a strong community presence and prioritise giving back.



OUR RESPONSIBILITY

Our Reconciliation Action Plan includes steps towards procurement and supplier diversity, alongside charitable efforts, sustainability initiatives, and eradicating modern slavery from our supply chain and the supply chain of our partners'. We actively trade with local First Nations businesses, aiming for 10-15% growth and facilitating collaboration with clients. Spending with certified First Nations suppliers generates a social and economic value of \$4.41 for every dollar invested, emphasising the potential of our partnerships.



WHO DO WE OPERATE WITH?

While not a complete list, four partners we are currently doing great work with include:

- Muru – Muru Group’s partnership with COS in 2014 resulted in the establishment of Muru Office Supplies (MOS). With a range that covers all office basics, MOS’ ongoing success with Government and enterprise clients has resulted in \$500,000 directly put back into communities.
- Waddi Specialty Coffee – A female-owned company, Waddi coffee beans are roasted and packed in Queensland and then shipped nationally.
- Yaru Water – Sourced and packaged in Northern NSW, Yaru supplies crystal clear bottled water to a range of large Government departments through COS. A percentage of profits goes to the Yaru Foundation, which funds projects focused on improving health prospects for individuals within First Nations communities.

- Miranda Plastics – A 100% First Nations-owned business, Miranda Plastics has been operating for the last 20 years, making HACCP-approved products that are non-toxic and easy to clean. With COS as a partner, the company has recently secured a new Government contract.

Three of these businesses – Muru, Miranda, and Yaru – are Supply Nation Certified, meaning that the companies are 51% or more First Nations owned, managed and controlled.



MUTUALLY BENEFICIAL RELATIONSHIPS

COS and its First Nations partners are bringing a range of positive effects to the table, both directly and indirectly, with clear benefits for each segment shown below.

COS - Due to the strong connection between First Nations cultures and environmental care and preservation, working with Supply Nation Certified businesses furthers our own commitment to promoting sustainability, not to mention buying locally from businesses with easily verifiable supply chains.

Customers - Many of our clients, from both the public and private sector, are actively looking to increase their spend on Australian-made, First Nations, and sustainable products, in line with their corporate social responsibility (CSR) targets. They receive a high-quality product that meets these goals.

First Nations businesses - Partnering with COS allows First Nations businesses to leverage our status and resources as a large supplier to make those connections with large enterprises and Government departments, resulting in fruitful ongoing cooperation.

Communities – First Nations businesses are rooted in local communities, providing jobs and giving back directly through foundations or donations to specific initiatives.

As we can see, everyone wins when partnering with local businesses that keep community interests at heart.



LOOKING TO THE FUTURE:

COS is always seeking new partnerships with First Nations businesses, unlocking social value through ventures like Earth Blends Coffee and Ngilay gift boxes. Our skilled sales and marketing teams have the resources, know-how, and contacts to promote and deliver quality customised solutions to customers nationwide.

We feel a unique responsibility to be a leader in corporate responsibility, setting the standard for other suppliers, and are proud to grow our business alongside talented First Nations partners.

