



# Modern Slavery Statement

For the year ending 31 December 2021

The purpose of this statement is to outline our approach to ensuring that UNE Partnerships understands the risks of exposure to modern slavery in an increasingly global supply chain, and that any risks can be appropriately monitored and mitigated where identified.

## 1. The business

UNE Partnerships ACN 003 099 125 is a private company limited by shares, incorporated and domiciled in Australia under the Corporations ACT 2001 (Cth).

UNE Partnerships is a controlled entity of the University of New England and a not for profit enterprise where the funds generated from its activities are for the benefit of the University and its education and research activities.

## 2. Structure, operations and supply chains

Over the past 35 years UNE Partnerships has grown to become a trusted name in the vocational education and training (VET) sector providing training design, development and delivery services to individuals and organisations throughout Australia and overseas.

Governed by a Board of Directors on behalf of the shareholder (UNE), UNE Partnerships employs approximately 35 staff and 75 contract trainers and assessors all based in Australia.

UNE Partnerships provides a range of educational services to individuals and organisations including:

- Training needs analysis
- Course and courseware design
- Provision of training and assessment services
- Student support and administration

In carrying out this work UNE Partnerships purchases products and services across the following categories:

- Catering
- Office consumables
- Printed promotional material and merchandise
- Professional services consultants including direct recruitment; contracted labour and agency arrangements
- Technology (hardware, software and cloud services)
- Training facilities
- Travel and accommodation

## 3. Risk of modern slavery practices in the operations and supply chains

### Location of operations

All UNE Partnership staff are employed in Australia and subject to Australian employment laws (minimum wage) and fair work conditions. UNE Partnerships is not engaged in industry considered to be at high risk of modern slavery practice in Australia.

UNE Partnerships does not currently engage contactors or third-party providers to act as agents for the promotion or delivery of services in overseas countries.

### **Services direct to students**

The professional development programs we offer are undertaken by individuals, and by contract to private and public sector organisations, throughout Australia and internationally.

Most UNE Partnerships educational programs for individual students are delivered in a fully online manner and on a fee for service basis. Potential students are provided upfront with information about UNE Partnerships courses and program and educational outcomes, as well as the cost of the program, expectations for students in terms of demonstrating learning progress (including assessments etc) and any requirements to access the online course materials.

On occasion, UNE Partnerships will deliver training to students face to face within a workplace or via a training facility (either operated by UNE Partnerships or hired for the purposes of running a training program). Where facilities are hired they are done so at market rates.

Student engagement with services is by choice. UNE Partnerships is required to provide information upfront regarding course and course costs and expected course outcomes to the students – to inform their decision.

UNE Partnership has a small number of independent self-directed students studying offshore. Such students enrol through the same channels as domestic students and do so of their own free will.

UNE Partnerships programs are quality assured internally, many course offerings are subject to external regulation by Australian Skills Quality Authority (ASQA), and programs for skills training etc subject to review by Government funding bodies. The risk of UNE Partnerships imposing activities that support Modern Slavery Practices directly is low.

### **Services for organisations**

UNE Partnerships provides education, training and consulting services direct to organisations. The majority of organisational customers are Local, State and Federal Government Agencies; Peak Industry Bodies, Australian Industry or Charitable Associations the significant majority of whom are in industries which are considered relatively low risk of Modern Slavery Practice and subject to Australian employment and fair work laws and external review/registration.

UNE Partnerships' exposure to overseas countries is limited to enrolling students from those countries undertaking its courses.

## **4. Addressing the risk of modern slavery practices**

UNE Partnerships has undertaken a review of suppliers and assessed each for exposure to modern slavery practice against an agreed set of risk indicators. UNE Partnerships has incorporated controls into the terms of supplier agreements and requested assurances from suppliers considered to be medium or high risk, such as those with operations in high risk countries. New suppliers will be allocated a risk level and required to provide assurances through the supplier agreement.

The risk of UNE Partnerships involvement in modern slavery practices has been incorporated into our risk management processes which are reviewed annually and included in reports to the Board of Directors.