

Explorer and SupplierOne

Category Definitions

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This document serves as reference material of supplier.io’s available categories and is subject to ongoing modifications by supplier.io. As industry practices evolve or new information becomes available, we may revise or expand the content within this document.

Categories available may vary dependent upon the supplier.io product(s) subscribed to.

DIVERSITY

Name	Acronym	Description	Valid Location(s)
8(a) Program	8A	A small business participating in the SBA 8(a) Business Development Program. The business must be at least 51% owned and controlled by socially and economically disadvantaged individuals who are U.S. citizens.	US
AbilityOne Program	ABILITYONE	The AbilityOne Program, formerly known as JWOD, is administered by the Committee for Purchase from People Who Are Blind or Severely Disabled through two Central Nonprofit Agencies, the National Industries for the Blind, and NISH (serving people with a range of disabilities). NIB and NISH work with over 600 nonprofit agencies.	US
Airport Concessionaire Disadvantaged Business Enterprise	ACDBE	Airport Concession Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (ACDBE) means a concession that is a for-profit small business concern (1) That is at least 51 percent owned by one or more individuals who are both socially and economically disadvantaged or, in the case of a corporation, in which 51 percent of the stock is owned by one or more such individuals; and (2) Whose management and daily business operations are controlled by one or more of the socially and economically disadvantaged individuals who own it.	US
Alaskan Native Corp or Tribally Owned	ANC	Federally Recognized Native American Entity - Alaskan Native Corporation Owned Firm.	US

Broad-based Black Economic Empowerment	BBBEE	Broad-based black economic empowerment (BEE) is a government policy to advance economic transformation and enhance the economic participation of Black people (African, Coloured and Indian people who are South African citizens) in the South African economy.	South Africa
Combination Business Enterprise	CBE	A small business concern organized for profit, performing a commercially useful function, that is 50% owned and controlled by one or more certified minority men or MBEs and fifty percent owned and controlled by one of more nonminority women or certified WBEs. The owners must be United States citizens or lawful permanent residents.	US
Disabled-Owned	DISABLED	A disabled-owned business is a business that is at least 51 percent owned, controlled, and operated by an individual or individuals who are disabled.	GLOBAL
Disadvantaged Business Enterprise	DBE	A for-profit small business concern (1) That is at least 51 percent owned by one or more individuals who are both socially and economically disadvantaged or, in the case of a corporation, in which 51 percent of the stock is owned by one or more such individuals; and (2) Whose management and daily business operations are controlled by one or more of the socially and economically disadvantaged individuals who own it.	US
Encouraging Diversity Growth and Equity Program	EDGE	<p>The EDGE program is designed to assist socially and economically disadvantaged businesses in obtaining state government contracts in the following areas: construction, architecture, and engineering; professional services; goods and services; and information technology services. The state of Ohio developed the program because it recognizes the need to encourage, nurture, and support the growth of economically and socially disadvantaged businesses to foster their development and increase the number of qualified competitors in the marketplace.</p> <p>Socially disadvantaged individuals are those who have been subjected to racial or ethnic prejudice or cultural bias within American society because of their identities as members of groups and without regard to their individual qualities. The social disadvantage must stem from circumstances beyond their control.</p> <p>Economically disadvantaged are socially disadvantaged individuals who have limited access to capital and credit opportunities through a diminished ability to compete in a free market.</p>	US
Economically Disadvantaged Women-Owned Business	EDWOSB	A business that is at least 51% owned and controlled by one or more women, and primarily managed by one or more women. The women must be U.S. citizens. The firm must be "small" in its primary industry in accordance with SBA's size standards for that industry. In order for a WOSB to be deemed "economically disadvantaged," its owners must demonstrate economic disadvantage in accordance with the requirements set forth in the final SBA rule.	US
Historically Black Colleges and Universities	HBCU	Institutions of higher education in the United States that were established before 1964 with the intention of serving the African American community.	US
Indian and Small Economic Enterprise	IEE	<p>An Indian economic enterprise (IEE) means any business activity owned by one or more Indians or Indian tribes that is established for the purpose of profit provided that: the combined Indian or tribal ownership must constitute not less than 51 percent of the enterprise; the Indians or Indian tribes must, together, receive at least a majority of the earnings from the contract; and the management and daily business operations of an enterprise must be controlled by one or more individuals who are members of an Indian Tribe. To ensure actual control over the enterprise, the individuals must possess requisite management or technical capabilities directly related to the primary industry in which the enterprise conducts business.</p> <p>"Indian" means an enrolled member of a federally recognized tribe or "Native" as defined in the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (43 U.S.C. 1601). "Indian tribe" means an Indian Tribe, band, nation, or other group or community that is recognized as eligible for the special programs and services provided the U.S. government</p>	US

because of their status as Indians. This includes any Alaska Native village or regional or village corporation.

Local Economically Disadvantaged Enterprise	LEDE	Local Economically Disadvantaged Enterprises (LEDE) refers to the collaborative efforts aimed at stimulating or maintaining economic activity within a community. It involves citizens and government officials working together to create an economic development strategy. The goal is to enhance the economic well-being of the local area by promoting business growth, job creation, and sustainable development	US
Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender-Owned	LGBT	A business that is at least 51 percent owned, operated, managed, and controlled by one or more individuals who are lesbian, gay, bisexual, or transgender, and who are either U.S. citizens or lawful permanent residents.	Global
Military Spouse Enterprise	MSE	A Military Spouse-Owned Enterprise is a registered member of the U.S. Military Spouse Chamber of Commerce, legally registered business according to the local, state, federal, Host Nation (if OCONUS), and military installation where the business is located, is at least 51% owned and operated by a U.S. military spouse, or jointly owned by two or more military spouses. The military spouse must manage daily operations and be a primary decision-maker for the organization.	US
Minority-Owned	MBE	A business that is a for-profit enterprise, regardless of size, physically located in the United States or its trust territories, which is owned, operated managed, and controlled by minority group members. "Minority group members" are United States citizens who are Asian, Black, Hispanic, and Native American. Ownership by minority individuals means the business is at least 51% owned by such individuals or, in the case of a publicly owned business, at least 51% of the stock is owned by one or more such individuals.	Global
Service- Disabled Veteran-Owned	SDVET	A business that is at least 51 percent owned by a veteran (see VBE) with a disability that is service connected. The term "service connected" means that such disability was incurred or aggravated in the line of duty in the active military, naval or air service.	US
Veteran-Owned	VET	A business that is at least 51 percent owned by one or more veterans, who control and operate the business. Control in this context means exercising the power to make policy decisions and operate means to be actively involved in the day-to-day management of the business. The term "veteran" means a person who served in the active military, naval, or air service, and who was discharged or released there from under conditions other than dishonorable.	Global
Women-Owned	WBE	A business that is a for-profit enterprise, regardless of size, physically located in the United States or its trust territories, which is owned, operated, managed, and controlled by one or more women who are United States citizens. Ownership means the business is at least 51% owned by one or more women or, in the case of a publicly owned business, at least 51% of the stock is owned by one or more women.	Global
Woman-Owned Small Business	WOSB	A business that is at least 51% owned and controlled by one or more women, and primarily managed by one or more women. The women must be U.S. citizens. The firm must be "small" in its primary industry in accordance with SBA's size standards for that industry.	US

SIZE

Name	Acronym	Description	Valid Location(s)
8(a) Program	8A	A small business participating in the SBA 8(a) Business Development Program. The business must be at least 51% owned and controlled by socially and economically disadvantaged individuals who are U.S. citizens.	US
Airport Concessionaire Disadvantaged Business Enterprise	ACDBE	Airport Concession Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (ACDBE) means a concession that is a for-profit small business concern (1) That is at least 51 percent owned by one or more individuals who are both socially and economically disadvantaged or, in the case of a corporation, in which 51 percent of the stock is owned by one or more such individuals; and (2) Whose management and daily business operations are controlled by one or more of the socially and economically disadvantaged individuals who own it.	US
Combination Business Enterprise	CBE	A small business concern organized for profit, performing a commercially useful function, that is 50% owned and controlled by one or more certified minority men or MBEs and fifty percent owned and controlled by one of more nonminority women or certified WBEs. The owners must be United States citizens or lawful permanent residents.	US
Disadvantaged Business Enterprise	DBE	A for-profit small business concern (1) That is at least 51 percent owned by one or more individuals who are both socially and economically disadvantaged or, in the case of a corporation, in which 51 percent of the stock is owned by one or more such individuals; and (2) Whose management and daily business operations are controlled by one or more of the socially and economically disadvantaged individuals who own it.	US
Exempt Micro Enterprise	EME	As a general rule in South Africa, businesses with an annual turnover lower than R10 million qualifies as Exempted Micro Enterprises (EME) . This means that a small business does not have to conduct a full Black Economic Empowerment (BEE) verification in order to achieve a BEE level. An EME is only required to produce a sworn affidavit, completed by the owners or directors, in order to confirm: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Personal / Company Detail • Annual total revenue / sales • Level of black ownership 	South Africa
Emerging Small Business	ESB	Emerging Small Business (ESB) certification is for small businesses seeking opportunities for state, county, and city government, and special jurisdiction (e.g., hospitals and universities) contracts. ESB is a race and gender-neutral program based on the size of the business rather than the individual.	US
Emerging Small Business Enterprise	ESBE	The CERT ESBE program is a race- and gender-neutral program designed to provide greater access to public contracting to very small local businesses. The ESBE program complements efforts by CERT Board Executive Members to increase their spending with local small businesses.	US
HUB Zone	HUBZONE	A small business certified by the SBA as having its principal office in a certified historically under-utilized business zone, and at least 51% owned and controlled by U.S. citizens, or a Community Development Corporation, or an agricultural cooperative or an Indian tribe. Additionally, at least 35% of the business's employees must reside in a HUBZone.	US

Medium-Small Medium Enterprise	MEDSME	A medium-small business enterprise (MEDSME) is a business that has fewer than 250 employees and an annual turnover or balance sheet threshold that varies depending on the region or country.	Global
Micro-Entity	MICENT	A micro-entity business (MICENT) is a very small business that has any of the 2 criteria: 1) fewer than 10 employees, 2) an annual turnover of £632,000 or 3) an annual balance sheet of £316,000 or less.	UK
Micro-Small Medium Enterprise	MICSME	A micro small business enterprise (MICSME) is a small business that has fewer than 10 employees and a low annual turnover or balance sheet. The exact thresholds for turnover and balance sheet varies depending on the region or country.	Global
Qualifying Small Enterprises	QSE	Qualifying Small Enterprises (QSEs) are part of one of the categories of South African businesses as per the Broad Based Black Economic Empowerment Act. A QSE is an enterprise with an annual Total Revenue of greater than R10 million but less than R50 million in South Africa. QSEs are categorized as either Generic QSEs or Sector-based QSEs, where the eligibility of an entity that falls under a specific sector to qualify as a QSE is set by the Sector Charter in which it operates under.	South Africa
Self-Certified Small Disadvantaged Business	SC-SDB	A small business that is at least 51% owned and controlled by socially and economically disadvantaged individuals who are U.S. citizens.	US
Small	SBE or SMALL	A business concern eligible for assistance from SBA as a small business is one that is organized for profit, with a place of business located in the United States. It must operate primarily within the United States or make a significant contribution to the U.S. economy through payment of taxes or use of American products, materials, or labor. Together with its affiliates, it must meet the numerical size standards as defined in the Small Business Size Regulations. The business must also qualify as small as defined by SBA size standards for the company's primary NAICS.	US
Small-Small Medium Enterprise	SMLSME	A small SME is a business that has fewer than 50 employees and an annual turnover or balance sheet threshold that varies depending on the region or country.	Global
Small Medium Enterprise	SME	Small-medium enterprises are businesses that maintain revenues, assets, or a number of employees below a certain threshold. Each country has its own definition of what constitutes a small and midsize enterprise. Certain size criteria must be met, and occasionally, the industry in which the company operates is taken into account as well.	Global (except US)

Small Economically Disadvantaged Business Enterprise	SEDBE	<p>A Socially and Economically Disadvantaged Business Enterprise's primary owner(s) must be both socially and economically disadvantaged.</p> <p>1) A socially disadvantaged individual is a person subjected to racial or ethnic prejudice or cultural bias within American society because of his or her identity as a member of a group stemming from circumstances beyond her or his control. Some persons are presumed to be socially disadvantaged. For certification purposes, those persons are women and members of the following groups: Black/African American, Hispanic/Latino, Native American, Native Alaskan, Asian, Pacific Islander, or Native Hawaiian.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Other persons who are not members of these groups may provide evidence of social disadvantage. These applications are evaluated on a case-by-case basis, and must include all of the following elements: At least one objective distinguishing feature that has contributed to social disadvantage. • Personal experiences of substantial and chronic social disadvantage in American society. • Negative impacts on entry into business or advancement in business. <p>2) An economically disadvantaged individual is a person whose ability to compete in business has been impaired due to diminished capital and credit opportunities, as compared to others in the same or similar line of business who are not socially disadvantaged.</p> <p>The owners' personal net worth generally may not exceed \$1.32 million. This does not include equity in the owners' personal residence or business for which the person is applying for certification.</p>	US
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Small Local Business Enterprise	SLBE	<p>SLBE means Small Local Business Enterprise is a for-profit business that is independently owned and controlled. To be considered an SLBE, the business must meet the industry-based size standards established by the Small Business Administration (SBA). SLBEs are eligible to receive benefits such as restricted bidding, bid discounts, and preference points when bidding on City contracts. They are not dominant in its industry and meets all requirements of being both a "Small Business Enterprise" and a "Local Business Enterprise."</p>	US
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SOCIAL

Name	Acronym	Description	Valid Location(s)
BCORP	BCORP	<p>B Corp Certification is a designation that a business is meeting high standards of verified performance, accountability, and transparency on factors from employee benefits and charitable giving to supply chain practices and input materials. In order to achieve certification, a company must:</p> <p>1) Demonstrate high social and environmental performance by achieving a B Impact Assessment score of 80 or above and passing our risk review. Multinational corporations must also meet baseline requirement standards.</p> <p>2) Make a legal commitment by changing their corporate governance structure to be accountable to all stakeholders, not just shareholders, and achieve benefit corporation status if available in their jurisdiction.</p> <p>3) Exhibit transparency by allowing information about their performance measured against B Lab's standards to be publicly available on their B Corp profile on B Lab's website.</p>	Global
Fair for Life	FFL	<p>Fair for Life is a certification program for fair trade in agriculture, manufacturing, and trade. It was created in 2006 by the Swiss Bio-Foundation in cooperation with the IMO Group, then taken over by the Ecocert Group in 2014 to meet a specific demand from organic farming stakeholders.</p>	Global

Fair Trade	FT	Fair Trade Certified™ is an award-winning, rigorous, and globally recognized sustainable sourcing model that improves livelihoods, protects the environment, and builds resilient, transparent supply chains.	Global
Humane	HUM	A Certified Humane® enterprise is an enterprise that has met certain standards for animal care and welfare. The goal of the program is to improve the lives of farm animals by driving consumer demand for kinder and more responsible farm animal practices.	Global
Local Business Enterprise	LOCAL	A business concerned that is owned 51% or more by resident of that area, headquartered in that area or has a majority of employees from that area.	US
Non-Profit Organization	NPO	A non-profit organization is a group organized for purposes other than generating profit and in which no part of the organization's income is distributed to its members, directors, or officers. Non-profit corporations are often termed "non-stock corporations." They can take the form of a corporation, an individual enterprise (for example, individual charitable contributions), unincorporated association, partnership, foundation (distinguished by its endowment by a founder, it takes the form of a trusteeship), or condominium (joint ownership of common areas by owners of adjacent individual units incorporated under state condominium acts). Non-profit organizations must be designated as nonprofit when created and may only pursue purposes permitted by statutes for non-profit organizations. Non-profit organizations include churches, public schools, public charities, public clinics and hospitals, political organizations, legal aid societies, volunteer services organizations, labor unions, professional associations, research institutes, museums, and some governmental agencies.	Global
Social Enterprises	SE	Certified Social Enterprises are businesses that sell goods or services, embed a social, cultural, or environmental purpose into the business, and reinvest the majority of profits into their social mission. Social enterprises compete with traditional for-profit businesses, but use profits to invest in vibrant, healthy communities.	Global

ENVIRONMENTAL

Name	Acronym	Description	Valid Location(s)
BCORP	BCORP	<p>B Corp Certification is a designation that a business is meeting high standards of verified performance, accountability, and transparency on factors from employee benefits and charitable giving to supply chain practices and input materials. In order to achieve certification, a company must:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Demonstrate high social and environmental performance by achieving a B Impact Assessment score of 80 or above and passing our risk review. Multinational corporations must also meet baseline requirement standards. 2) Make a legal commitment by changing their corporate governance structure to be accountable to all stakeholders, not just shareholders, and achieve benefit corporation status if available in their jurisdiction. 3) Exhibit transparency by allowing information about their performance measured against B Lab's standards to be publicly available on their B Corp profile on B Lab's website. 	Global
Carbon Neutral	CN	A carbon neutral certification demonstrates an organization's commitment to decarbonization through cutting the organizational footprint and/or compensating for any emissions through the purchase of carbon offsets.	Global
Environment ally-Rated	ER	An environmentally-rated designation means that a business has taken some steps toward reducing their environmental impact on the planet, reducing greenhouse gas emissions, and as a result, has earned one or more environmental rating, either from the Carbon Disclosure Project (CDP) or from another source tracked by supplier.io.	Global

Recycled Content and Material	RC and RM	Certification verifies the percentage of a product that was made from recycled content or recycled materials. This certification is for product manufacturers that use post-consumer or pre-consumer recycled content and want to make a verified claim. Material that has been reprocessed from recovered material can also get certified. Recycled content certification can be achieved for product feedstocks and products in many industries including: building materials, packaging, plastic goods, textiles, jewelry, metal, electronics, home goods, wood, paper and more.	Global
Regenerative Organic	RO	Regenerative Organic Certified® is a certification for food, textiles, and personal care ingredients. Regenerative Organic Certified® enterprises meet the highest standards in the world for soil health, animal welfare, and farmworker fairness.	Global
Renewable Energy	REC	A renewable energy certificate (REC) is a market-based instrument that represents the property rights to the environmental, social, and other non-power attributes of renewable electricity generation. RECs are issued when one megawatt-hour (MWh) of electricity is generated and delivered to the electricity grid from a renewable energy resource.	Global
ESG Risk Steward	RS	A ESG Risk Steward designation is a classification from impak Analytics that indicates that a business is a good steward of environmental and social risk. It indicates that the company has earned a potential impact indicator rating of 2, 3 or 4 out of 4, by potentially avoiding harm, benefiting stakeholders, or contributing to solutions. More details can be found at https://www.impactanalytics.com/wp-content/uploads/2023/05/Methodology-Brief-impak-Analytics.pdf	Global