

# ESG and What it Means for Me

What's your why? You may want to see change in the world and engage with a company whose values align with yours. Maybe that's because you have future generations to care for, or maybe your time traveling the world has inspired you to seek a sustainable future economy. Whatever the reason, engaging in ESG investing is a forward-thinking proposition, and we can help.

In this day of employer-sponsored retirement plans, like 401k's and 403b's, everyone is an investor. Do you know what ESG options you have? Now that we've established that you're an investor and someone who cares about the future, both your own future and the world's future, what does your path look like?

## BACK TO BASICS – WHAT IS ESG INVESTING?

ESG stands for Environmental, Social, and Corporate Governance. ESG criteria help to evaluate a company's impact on its employees, customers, environment, and communities. By assessing ESG scores, it is possible to invest in companies that promote positive changes in society.

Here are the three components of ESG investing (Forbes 2021):

- **Environment:** The impact of a company on the environment is assessed through all of its operations such as the company's carbon footprint, sustainability practices involved in its supply chain, and whether there are toxic chemicals used in its manufacturing process.
- **Social:** Social criteria assess diversity and inclusion such as LGBTQ+ quality and racial diversity in a company's hiring practices and within the executive suite and staff overall. Additionally, it also looks at how much a company supports social initiatives beyond its operations.
- **Governance:** Governance refers to the company's management and advisory board, and how they drive positive change through their interactions with stakeholders, having diversity in leadership positions, and providing fair executive pay.

## ALEXIS IMPACT PORTFOLIOS – INVESTING IN CHANGE

At Alexis Advisors, we apply the art and science of screening our investments through ESG. Our methodology allows us to offer you, the investor, access to a way to strive to invest in changing in the world.

We screen our investments because we aim to create value in society while generating returns for our clients. We offer several proprietary portfolios that are categorized as defensive and offensive portfolios and screen our equity portfolios through multiple lenses: fundamental, technical and social and environmental impact.

## WHAT DO I DO NEXT?

You've come this far, and that's great! Now, work with an advisor to ask questions about your investments - what they mean to you (values-alignment) and to the world (ESG). Armed with the language to talk about ESG, we can start to effect greater collective change across the corporate landscape as individual investors.