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The Future of ESG Strategy in Municipal Finances.

We often hear phrases like environmentally friendly, social and equitably beneficial, and financial transparency when it comes to assessing the forward-looking strategy of companies in both the private and public sector. However, in recent years, we have been hearing these phrases cross into local and state government operations such as debt issuances and other financial reporting.

The acronym ESG refers to 'Environmental, Social, and Governance Evaluation' often focuses on a local government's ability to sustainably manage the future risks and opportunities related to its current governance structure along with opportunities to reduce its carbon footprint through the green projects/initiatives that will have a positive social or environmental impact; for example, renewable energy projects, smart infrastructure, affordable housing, and clean transportation.

In this article, we will take a closer look at the ESG efforts related to local government operations, the review of rating agencies, and how it can be mutually beneficial for both issuers and investors.

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