

# ESG READINESS HEALTH CHECK



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## SERVICE

Aurora's ESG Readiness Health Check is a tailored, short duration study to validate current thinking, right-course existing initiatives and plan for successful delivery of the ESG strategy.

The outcome of the ESG Health-Check will define the shape of your programme whilst articulating ways to improve and redirect your ESG readiness journey in the short, medium and long term.

## ESG: AN OBLIGATION AND OPPORTUNITY

Correctly equipping your organisation to meet ESG requirements is fraught with challenges and uncertainty – but 'sustainable digitisation is key to success'.

ESG is now a major force in financial services, with its criticality only set to increase as more jurisdictions adopt regulations and standards. The implementation of SFDR and CSRD in the EU have cemented ESG as a key part of Client Lifecycle Management that isn't going away.

Many FIs are still struggling to unpack and interpret the standards and regulations, never mind design and operate an ESG process that delivers compliance without negatively impacting the end customer. On top of this, most organisations are doing this work on the side of their desk, with no long-term strategy for automation or digitalisation, putting them at risk of adding more manual processes, or worse, regulatory fines.

If done right, however, ESG can become an opportunity for differentiation, increased revenue, and long-term growth...

## OUTPUTS & DOCUMENTATION

- Validate knowledge around operationalising ESG
- Identify and assess gaps, challenges and potential pitfalls
- Ensure your chosen ESG solution will support your priorities as an organisation
- Identify areas for differentiation, improved customer experience and potential revenue opportunities

## KEY FEATURES

### STRUCTURED TRANSFORMATION

- Identify, define and prioritise the problem statements and domain areas in scope by RAG rating progress
- Test, recommend and play back
- Implement a proven, structured approach from the outset

### FORENSIC VALIDATION

- Perform a detailed assessment of current state
- Validate known gaps and identify likely challenges
- Prove assumptions and business case for ESG
- Test and inform ESG strategy and approach

### EXPERT PLANNING

- Prioritise your focus on the most urgent, beneficial, and impactful activities
- Avoid the common pitfalls

### THE AURORA DIFFERENCE / DOMAIN EXPERTISE:

- Industry Know-how
- Understand current position vs the wider marketplace
- Build a real-world understanding of feasibility
- Avoid pitfalls with real-life transformation delivery
- Get an expert opinion on ESG strategy

## APPROACH

Rapid current state analysis including reviewing all or some of the following functional areas:

1. Clarify and set scope to ensure stakeholders are on-board
2. Get a rapid expert view on your current state readiness, whether that be your organisation's ESG policy, processes, technology, teams, data, or a combination of these
3. Gain a high-level, independent, market view of where you are on your journey to operationalising ESG
4. Plan the plan: understand likely deliverables and timeframes, and apply an honest feasibility lens

This approach can be tailored to the specific requirements of the problem statement, and is flexible to allow for extension and follow on activities.

## TOOLS

Aurora has its own toolset for delivering outputs and managing the study. These include:

- Aurora Scoping Grid
- ESG Health-check Scorecard
- Plans (Monday, MS project, Excel)
- Requirements capture (Mural, Flowcharts, Excel)
- Pre-structured Powerpoint and Word documentation
- Aurora's proven methodology

We will use the client's preferred tools wherever available or preferred.

## STRUCTURE AND DURATION

- Typically around 2-4 weeks effort, with activity normally taking place over 1-2 months depending on complexity and availability of client resources

- Team tailored to the knowledge and skillset requirement

## SKILLS / KNOWLEDGE

- ESG strategy and organisational design
- Experience of variety of FS operating models
- Project management / Planning

