

The following is an English version of the official Japanese announcement, which has been given to the Tokyo Stock Exchange and the media in Tokyo, Japan.



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For Immediate Release

SPARX Group Co., Ltd.
President and Group CEO Shuhei Abe
(Code: 8739, TSE Prime Market)

**Mirai Creation Fund 3 Invests in STANDARD,
a Firm Supporting Corporate DX from a Human Perspective**
—Supporting corporate DX promotion and internalization by providing one-stop DX human
resource training, strategy consulting, and technology development—

TOKYO—November 2, 2022—SPARX Group Co., Ltd. (SPARX; TSE Prime: 8739) today announced that its Mirai Creation Fund 3—established in October 2021—has invested in STANDARD Inc. STANDATD looks to use this capital to achieve discontinuous growth by hiring human resources and developing products to accelerate new business creation focused on SaaS-type products.

■ Portfolio Company Outline

Since its founding in 2017, STANDARD has made its mission to become the standard in digital transformation (DX) from a human perspective. Under this mission, it has supported 650 companies—primarily large organizations in a wide range of industries—in advancing and internalizing their DX efforts.

Traditionally, there have been three barriers to DX success:

- 1 Ideas – A lack of DX literacy brings a lack of ideas;
- 2 Investment decisions – An inability to prioritize decisions;
- 3 Technology development – A lack of technological prowess prevents smooth project progress.

STANDARD has helped more than 650 companies promote and internalize DX by eliminating these three barriers through a series of support services ranging from human resource DX training to idea validation and technology implementation. The firm creates new business centered on SaaS-type products by leveraging its experience-based DX policy ideas, high-resolution industry knowledge, and cutting-edge technological capabilities. Stemming from its experience facing real-world issues through an extensive human resource DX training track record, STANDARD's approach transcends the boundaries of individual corporate businesses to help clients address social problems and generate innovation through a collaborative foundation.

For more details on the information provided in this press release, visit STANDARD's homepage: <https://standard-dx.com/>.

■ Mirai Creation Funds 1, 2, and 3 Summaries

The Mirai Creation Fund I began operations in November 2015 with financing of JPY 13.5 billion from three companies: Toyota Motor Corporation, Sumitomo Mitsui Banking Corporation, and SPARX, the Fund's general partner. Ultimately, the Fund received contributions from 20 companies, including the above three. Casting intelligent technologies, robotics, and hydrogen-economy technologies as vital to the future, Fund I has invested in approximately 50 companies and projects—from the US, the UK, Israel, Singapore, and Japan—that possess innovations in these fields. In H2 2018, SPARX began managing the Mirai Creation Fund II, which targets the three existing Mirai Creation fields along with the two additional areas of electrification and new materials. In October 2021, SPARX launched the Mirai Creation Fund III with SPARX Asset Management Co., Ltd., a subsidiary of SPARX, acting as its fund manager, adding carbon neutrality to the five fields of the Mirai Creation Fund II. As of September 30, 2022, the combined AUM for Funds I, II, and III were JPY 152.1 billion.

Mirai Creation Fund investment track record: <https://mirai.sparx.co.jp/en/investment/>

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