

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
(TSE Prime: 8739)

**Mirai Creation Fund III Invests in EneCoat Technologies,
a Startup Developing Next-Generation Solar Cells**
—Helping realize carbon neutrality by “supplying power, no matter where”—

TOKYO—July 18, 2024—SPARX Group Co., Ltd. (SPARX; TSE Prime: 8739) today announced that its Mirai Creation Fund III—established in October 2021— has executed an investment (the amount is not disclosed) in EneCoat Technologies Co., Ltd. (EneCoat). EneCoat will use the funds raised to form production and sales teams and expand its business while accelerating the development of perovskite solar cell technology to diversify the solar power supply chain, support a wide range of IoT devices, and enable advanced uses in new mobility applications.

■ Portfolio Company Profile

EneCoat is a Kyoto University spinout established in 2018 to develop perovskite solar cell technology to commercialize the research of the Atsushi Wakamiya Laboratory at the University’s Institute of Chemical Research. The company specializes in lightweight, thin-film solar cell technology for IoT and mobility applications. It was selected to join the Green Innovation Fund Projects funded by Japan’s New Energy and Industrial Technology Development Organization (NEDO). EneCoat aims to innovate energy use for a carbon-free future.

■ Mirai Creation Funds I, II, and III 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 June 28, 2024, the combined AUM for Funds I, II, and III were JPY 115.6billion.

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

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