

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.



January 16, 2020

For Immediate Release

SPARX Group Co., Ltd.
President and Group CEO Shuhei Abe
(TSE1: 8739)

SPARX Supports the TCFD's Recommendations

—Aiming to Realize Its Corporate Mission to “Make the World Wealthier, Healthier, and Happier”—

TOKYO—January 16, 2020—SPARX Group Co., Ltd. (SPARX; TSE1: 8739) today announced its support of the recommendations published by the Task Force on Climate-Related Financial Disclosures (TCFD), an organization established by the Financial Stability Board (FSB).

The TCFD recommends that corporations disclose information on the financial impact of climate change, and that corporations improve their business sustainability by uncovering any potential management issues that they could face, based on analyses of climate change scenarios.

SPARX's mission is to “make the world wealthier, healthier, and happier” through investment. Since its founding in 1989, SPARX has used its unique bottom-up approach to invest in companies that excel at long-term value creation. Furthermore, in its role as a shareholder, the firm has supported its investee companies through investment and proactive dialogues meant to improve their corporate value.

SPARX begins every medium- to long-term investment decision by considering its impact on sustainability of the global environment. Human activity, in the form of both corporations and consumers, has significant direct and indirect effects on the environment. Because we believe in a sustainable society, we actively pursue solutions that reduces negative influences and invests in those that enhance the positive aspects of humanity's impact on the environment.

On announcing SPARX's support of the TCFD's recommendations, SPARX Group CEO Shuhei Abe made the following statement: “Climate change is having an impact on the global environment, and a sense of crisis is spreading worldwide. SPARX believes that the TCFD recommendations offer practical approaches that we should take to improve environmental stability across the globe, as an investment firm that manages client assets. We aim to realize our mission by having our investments actively inspire a society in which human beings can coexist with the global environment.”

Tadahiro Fujimura, SPARX Group CIO and SPARX Group executive, followed up with these remarks: “We believe that the TCFD recommendations provide us with opportunities to discuss actions meant to address climate change not just within SPARX but also with our investee companies and clients. As a result of these discussions, we will play a role in helping to create a better society, which is one of the crucial responsibilities of investment companies.”

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