

**Mitsubishi UFJ Financial Group, Inc. (MUFG)**  
**MUFG Bank, Ltd. (MUFG Bank)**

## **MUFG Enters Partnership Agreement with Sakana AI**

**Tokyo, May 19, 2025** --- Mitsubishi UFJ Financial Group, Inc. (MUFG) and its consolidated subsidiary, MUFG Bank, Ltd. (MUFG Bank), today announced that they have entered into a partnership agreement with Sakana AI K.K. (Sakana AI), an AI R&D company, and that have retained Ren Ito, COO of Sakana AI, as AI Advisor.

Under the partnership agreement, MUFG Bank and Sakana AI will establish a long-term strategic technology partnership for a period of more than three years. MUFG Bank's aim is to leverage the innovative technologies provided by Sakana AI to address management challenges and create high-value-added impacts on management. Initially, it will apply the expertise of Sakana AI's The AI Scientist to automate the creation of internal and external documents that require complex thinking and advanced specialized knowledge.

Ren Ito, who has been retained as AI Advisor, graduated from the University of Tokyo and has experience in diplomacy and global business operations at Japan's Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Mercari, Inc. He co-founded Sakana AI and has been serving as its COO. Through his advisory role, Mr. Ito will provide advice and participate in MUFG's AI intelligence activities, leveraging his cutting-edge knowledge in the AI field, extensive global experience, and network. He will support networking, provide information to the management team, and offer advice on AI strategy.

In its Medium-term Business Plan, which commenced in April 2024, MUFG has committed to enhancing its AI capabilities and data infrastructure to achieve data-driven management as well as to improve productivity and customer value. This commitment falls under the theme "Accelerate Transformation & Innovation," which is one of the plan's three pillars. By leveraging this partnership and the AI advisory role, MUFG aims to further elevate its AI strategy.

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**About MUFG**

Mitsubishi UFJ Financial Group, Inc. (MUFG) is one of the world's leading financial groups. Headquartered in Tokyo and with over 360 years of history, MUFG has a global network with approximately 2,000 locations in more than 40 countries. The Group has about 140,000 employees and offers services including commercial banking, trust banking, securities, credit cards, consumer finance, asset management, and leasing. The Group aims to "be the world's most trusted financial group" through close collaboration among our operating companies and by flexibly responding to all of the financial needs of our customers, serving society, and fostering shared and sustainable growth for a better world. MUFG's shares trade on the Tokyo, Nagoya, and New York stock exchanges. For more information, visit <https://www.muftg.jp/english>.

**About Sakana AI**

Founded in July 2023 and based in Tokyo, Sakana AI K.K. (Sakana AI), is a rapidly growing AI R&D company, led by David Ha, Llion Jones, and Ren Ito. Sakana AI has already achieved significant and innovative milestones, including Evolutionary Model Merge, a method for merging multiple AI models, and The AI Scientist, the first comprehensive system for fully automatic scientific discovery, enabling Foundation Models to perform research independently.

For more information, visit <https://sakana.ai/blog/>.