## What is the key climate solution proposed in this story?

Seagrass planting, coral planting, plastic clearing, sustainable travel

## Do you include other climate solutions? If so list.

* Carbon offsetting

## Story outline (please include any ideas on how to make it engaging to read)

Story idea 1.

A story could focus on a character target readers can identify with – a COP27 delegate. The issue of sustainable travel arises. Package holiday companies say they’ll offer offsetting, which is dismissed by environmental charities. The delegate manages to get the environmental charity, Earthwatch and a package holiday provider around a table. They put together a partnership where they provide holidays for people who want to do more than lie around on the beach and alleviate their green consciences in more productive ways than paying an offsetting charge. They can choose projects such as [planting seagrass](https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/m000qx0t) or new coral, or clearing plastic from the oceans. For the holiday makers it may be a cheap way to enjoy the ocean, learn new skills and meet people. A good writer could introduce tension via characters who dismiss the idea and a personal backstory for the delegate who seeks redemption, and engage readers in the emotions of the character who finally feels after much frustration that s/he has made a difference. [see also mangrove terrace story for additional ideas]

Story idea 2.

An associated story could be written from the point of view of a sea creature such as a turtle. Maybe the reader doesn’t realise straight off that it isn’t a human commenting on the changes for the better as seagrass/coral is planted and plastic is cleared up.

Story idea 3.

Tie into the personal carbon allowance story <https://www.greenstories.org.uk/anthology-for-cop27/#existing-stories> ‘Citizen Juries and Personal Carbon Allowances’ and set the story in the near future when people can only afford foreign diving holidays if they engage in carbon offsetting projects ucu as seagrass/tree/coral planting.

## Follow up information

*Each story will be accompanied by a webpage that gives more details to any reader inspired to follow up. We will have a researcher to fill in the gaps but s/he will have limited time so please fill in the next sections as much as you are able – if you don’t know, it’s fine to say.*

## Relevant sources

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/m000qx0t> seagrass planting

Some ideas here also https://oceanvisions.org/

## What can the reader do to progress this idea? How we can get from where we are now to the ideal outcome. Who/what is required to get to ideal outcome? (policy, finance, research?)

The COP27 delegate can get relevant expert round a table in one meeting

## Comments:

Currently the carbon footprint of travel may not be enough to offset the benefits from the holiday activity – and it may smack of greenwash so you’d need to address that – especially if it leads to the rebound effect – e.g. people travel more if they think it’s less harmful. Do they have to fly or could the journey be part of the holiday?

But there is a good opportunity here to cover effective means of carbon reduction using the ocean. Or there might be spillover effects. For example the person who went on holiday to clear up ocean now has different attitude to plastic waste at home now they realise where it ends up and has spent weeks clearing it up so leads to project locally to reduce plastic waste – so can combine several solutions in one story.