



ROBOCEAN

Ecosystem Engineering

What is Seagrass?

Seagrass is a flowering plant which grows in subtidal coastal regions forming vast meadows. These Meadows offer several ecological benefits, but their existence is threatened by a variety of human and environmental factors.



In the last century, the UK has lost 98% of its seagrass meadows.



Seagrass meadows are bastions of marine biodiversity, and they supply 20% of the world's fisheries.

Seagrass meadows can capture CO2 up to 35 times faster than tropical rainforests – without occupying a single inch of land!

Due to their incredible marine biodiversity and carbon capture capabilities, large scale restoration efforts could significantly contribute to the 13th and 14th Sustainable Development Goals.

29%

of global seagrass has been lost in the last century.

Our Project

Robocean is a subsea robotics start-up, focusing on the mechanisation of the seagrass restoration.

Founded by nine students from the School of Engineering, **Robocean** seeks to make restoring seagrass meadows more accessible in order to combat climate change and play a pivotal role in rewilding our oceans.

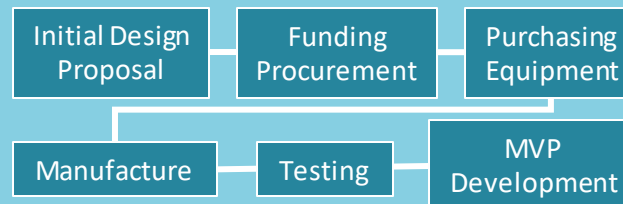
Current methods utilise divers to plant individual shoots on the seafloor, however this is time consuming and resource intensive. Our robot will take divers out of the ocean, and offer a more efficient means of ecosystem engineering.



We hope to make restoration 10 times more efficient

What is the Next Stage?

We are now focusing on the development of our prototype as shown in the flow chart below.



Funding opportunities like the SRS Student Project Grants allow us to continue this process.

#SaveOurSeagrass

