



Job title: Editor, Future Planet

(CPF mapping: Senior journalist team manager)

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Job introduction

We are looking to recruit a digital features editor experienced in environmental or science journalism for our newest international website, Future Planet.

Aimed at a global audience, Future Planet will publish solutions-focused feature stories, including text and video, about sustainability, climate change and the environment. While Future Planet will fall under its “parent” website BBC Future (bbc.com/future), the section will have its own commissioning budget, voice and ethos – including making its carbon footprint as small as possible and relying on local reporters and voices. Our aim is to make Future Planet a premium online destination for environmental features reported around the world.

This role will require someone with a strong background in commissioning and editing features journalism; who has experience in science journalism, ideally environmental; who is passionate about bringing sustainability-related stories to our BBC.com audience of more than 100 million worldwide; and who has the kind of entrepreneurial spirit needed to build an audience and traffic for a new website.

BBC Future and Future Planet sit within GNL, the part of the BBC which brings together the BBC.com features sites (BBC Future, BBC Culture, BBC Travel, BBC Worklife and BBC Reel), the BBC World News television channel, BBC.com/news and BBC.com/sport within the BBC News Group family. BBC Global News Ltd’s ambition is to maximise the quality of BBC News outside of the UK, focusing on delivering a commercially funded, but public service driven, news business.

Key responsibilities and accountabilities

- Develop and implement an editorial strategy to support the launch and longevity of Future Planet.
- Commission, edit and publish stories, video and potentially interactives on topics including sustainability, climate change, the environment and pollution.
- Understand, uphold and further develop the ethos of Future Planet, including its reliance on local voices and its commitment to cutting the carbon footprint of any reporting processes.
- Commission, edit and liaise with writers and content makers from around the world.

- Exercise editorial judgment in developing ideas and producing accurate and impartial journalism, and ensure that all content adheres to BBC editorial guidelines.
- Work closely with other team members, including the Future Planet social media journalist and our BBC.com features audience growth editor, from the commissioning stage until production, in order to brainstorm ideas and optimise story angles, headlines and assets.
- Manage production schedules and produce Future Planet stories for online.
- Be comfortable with picture sourcing and basic photo editing, as well as with working closely with our photo editor.
- Track success through engagement rates, growth statistics, reader responses and other metrics.
- Cultivate editorial relationships around the BBC to maximise efficiencies and output.
- Manage rights of licensed content and ensure published content meets rights and contractual agreements, as well as maintaining the editorial calendar and other promotional/sales materials as needed.
- Prioritise and plan activities taking into account all the relevant issues and factors such as deadlines staffing and resources available.
- Routinely fulfil duties unsupervised.
- Promote diversity, ensuring that content reflects the diverse nature of the BBC's global audience.

Ideally, you have....

- Experience with commissioning, editing and producing digital features.
- Background in science journalism, particularly in the subject areas of the environment, sustainability and/or climate change.
- Genuine commitment to the principles and ethos behind Future Planet, eg the focus on solutions journalism, local voices and a minimised carbon footprint.
- An entrepreneurial spirit – you see the opportunity to shape a new website as an exciting challenge.
- A high standard of writing ability and editing skills in clear, fluent British English.
- A collaborative, can-do attitude that allows you to work closely and productively within a small team, but also forge relationships around the BBC.
- An understanding of how to build a diverse stable of freelancers from around the world.
- An understanding of how to reach and speak to a global and diverse audience, while still maintaining BBC editorial standards and guidelines.
- Experience in launching new platforms or websites or growing online audiences is preferred, but not essential.
- Knowledge of digital publishing best practices and trends.
- Experience using analytical tools and data to evaluate story and website performance.
- Sound editorial judgement based upon a clear understanding of the BBC's distinctive editorial guidelines.