

Job Description

Job Title: Multimedia Broadcast Journalist

Department: BBC Afrique

Location: Dakar

Division: BBC Global News

As part of the one of the biggest broadcasters in the world, BBC Afrique broadcasts on radio and online via www.bbcafrique.com to Africa from London, England and Dakar, Senegal. Our output is varied with a strong emphasis on regional and international current affairs. From covering breaking news, sport, arts, business, features and challenging decision makers to discussing the issues that affect the daily lives of Africans, our daily programmes are delivered across a range of platforms.

Based in our Dakar office, you will be part of a busy journalistic team. Writing, translating and adapting material swiftly and accurately into French, in a style suited to radio, online and mobile journalism, you will also conduct interviews and reports. As well as originating, researching, producing and presenting items, packages and interviews, you will also provide discussions, complete programmes, background, analysis and features for a range of media formats.

Substantial, recent and relevant experience as a journalist is essential and with that, you will have full command and up to date knowledge of French as a first or equivalent language and also a complete comprehension of written and spoken English. We need your good broadcasting voice and your ability to acquire the appropriate presentation style. You will also have the ability to write, adapt and translate with accuracy, clarity and the style appropriate to differing audience.

ORGANISATION

Working in a team of journalists and reporting to the Editor of the Dakar Office or a Senior broadcast journalist, as appropriate. Shift work will be required which will include nights, evenings, weekends and public holidays.

JOB PURPOSE

To originate, research, prepare, produce and present items, packages, interviews, discussions, complete programmes, background, analysis and features, for radio, the Internet and other media forms. To ensure that any programme material for which the post holder is responsible meets the standards required by the BBC.

Duties

- To research, report, write, translate, edit or adapt stories or programme material; to find contributors and interviewees as well as other sources of material and/or actuality, as appropriate and to the required specification whilst maintaining professional journalistic standards of accuracy, impartiality and fair dealing and adhering to the BBC Editorial Guidelines. To ensure the availability of required production facilities.
- To perform at the microphone with or without a script, conduct interviews, chair discussions and act as a participant in other productions, whether live, pre-recorded or on location.
- To be responsible for a moving story, amending and updating material as required. To be able to freshen a story. To be responsible for thinking through and around editorial problems, developing realistic alternative strategies and approaches.
- To offer ideas for items, programmes/series and to actively contribute to the editorial planning process. To suggest new angles on existing stories, means of moving the story on, and to put forward stories not yet covered. To understand the Service's or Section's strategy and to suggest ideas appropriate to its distinctive style and content.

To contribute research, report, reversion, write and edit material for the online production

- To liaise closely with other team members and with contributors, reporters and stringers. To advise other parts of the BBC on target area affairs. To engage constructively with colleagues in London, and to facilitate the free flow of information and material between offices. To promote an atmosphere of trust and collaboration within the BBC Afrique service irrespective of location.
- To be responsible for studio production of live and pre-recorded programmes. To respond to breaking stories whilst on air and to resolve technical difficulties.
- After appropriate training, to be able to use a range of audio & digital equipment and information technology to research, write, assemble, edit and deliver material in the appropriate medium, including online, to the highest professional standards.
- To be responsible for efficient use of allocated resources.
- Producer may be required to travel within the target region and to the UK on reporting trips, assignments and for training.
- Producer may be required to work with or move to other programme teams on a multi-media basis and to have the ability to work across a range of skills and in a flexible manner, and to carry out these responsibilities in accordance with the BBC's overall standards and values.

Qualification and Skills

- A good broadcasting voice and the ability to acquire the appropriate presentation style.
- Ability to write, adapt and translate with accuracy, clarity and style appropriate to differing audiences and forms of media.
- IT literate and the ability to acquire technical skills and to operate technical equipment. Practical experience and extensive knowledge of the Internet and an understanding of the potential of new technology is essential.
- Educated to degree level or equivalent.
- Substantial, recent and relevant experience as a journalist.

KNOWLEDGE AND EXPERIENCE

- A full command and up to date knowledge of French (first or equivalent).
- A good knowledge of English including complete comprehension of written and spoken English and the ability to communicate effectively.
- Wide and up to date familiarity with French speaking Africa and an in-depth understanding of the area's history, politics, social issues and culture as well as the changing needs of the audience. An extensive knowledge of the media situation in French-speaking Africa and the way it is developing.
- A thorough knowledge and understanding of news and current affairs in French-speaking Africa. A good knowledge of, and interest in, international and British current affairs, particularly insofar as they affect the target area.
- Knowledge of the aims, objectives and standards of the BBC World Service.

Competencies

The following competencies (behaviours and characteristics) have been identified as key to success in the job. Successful candidates are expected to demonstrate these competencies.

- **Editorial Judgement** - demonstrates balanced and objective judgement based on a thorough understanding of BBC editorial guidelines, target audience, programme and department objectives. Makes the right editorial decisions, taking account of conflicting views where necessary.
- **Creative Thinking** - able to transform creative ideas into practical reality. Can look at existing situations and problems in novel ways and come up with creative solutions.
- **Planning and organisation** - able to think ahead in order to establish an efficient and appropriate course of action for self and others. Prioritises and plans activities taking into account all the relevant issues and factors such as deadlines, staffing and resources.
- **Communication** - able to get one's message understood clearly by adopting a range of styles, tools and techniques appropriate to the audience and the nature of the information.

- **Influencing and persuading** - able to present sound and well reasoned arguments to convince others. Can draw from a range of strategies to persuade people in a way that results in agreement or behaviour change.
- **Managing relationships and team working** - able to build and maintain effective working relationships with a range of people. Works co-operatively with others to be part of a team, as opposed to working separately or competitively.
- **Resilience** - manages personal effectiveness by managing emotions in the face of pressure, set backs or when dealing with provocative situations. Demonstrates an approach to work that is characterised by commitment, motivation and energy.
- **Flexibility** - adapts and works effectively with a variety of situations, individuals or groups. Able to understand and appreciate different and opposing perspectives on an issue, to adapt an approach as the requirements of a situation change, and to change or easily accept changes in one's own organisation or job requirements.