

Call for Three Thematic Editors-in-Chief (Volunteer with Paid Project Opportunities)

Water Resources · Oceans · Sanitation

[About Onewater](#)

Vision: Facts and spreadsheets alone don't inspire action. Stories do. It's through stories that we find meaning, connection and ultimately, change. Imagine a world where freshwater and oceans are seen not just as resources and services, but a shared identity that unites us.

Mission: We blend art, science and web wizardry to create content, host events and deliver expert advice to build bridges between the public, practitioners, artists, academia and policymakers. We do so because at the root of systemic gaps in funding, regulation and service delivery lie two key issues: a lack of education and ineffective policy. That is also why we provide a free, multilingual platform where everyone can learn from others and contribute their own stories to global conversations.

Where we came from: Onewater was born in mid-2020 as a "lockdown baby" out of the University of Oxford's MSc programme in "Water Science, Policy, and Management". Our goal was to create a space for learning and discussion about water. What began as a humble WordPress blog has grown into a dynamic community of over 300 volunteers from 50+ countries and a dedicated team of employees. Since 2021, we have been operating as a non-profit social enterprise in Germany. In 2025, we expanded with new branches in Canada and Namibia.

[About the position](#)

Our current editorial and writing team includes around 10 actively engaged volunteer copy-editors and writers. They all hold postgraduate degrees in water or environmental sciences and are native-level English speakers. Thanks to their amazing work, we're able to publish at least one story per week.

To support our growth and maintain the highest quality of content, we are expanding our editorial leadership with **three thematic Editors-in-Chief: one for Water Resources, one for Oceans, and one for Sanitation**. This structure reflects our ambition to broaden our scope and provide stronger, more focused editorial and content leadership across these key areas.

As an Editor-in-Chief, you will oversee and lead the copy-editing of all submissions, including articles, photo stories, and policy briefs. You will also help shape the overall content strategy, align the publication schedule with major themes and events, and take an active role in networking with universities, research institutes, and other organizations for content partnerships. For example, we have been co-producing a series of articles with Eawag and IHE Delft and see potential to replicate such collaborations with other institutions.

Tasks

- Lead the copy-editing process for all submissions, including articles, photo stories and policy briefs.
- Contribute to the development and implementation of the overall content strategy.
- Ensure the publication schedule aligns with major themes and/or significant events.
- Plan and organize the publication calendar to ensure a consistent release of at least 1 story per week.
- Coordinate with the team of around 7 volunteer copy-editors and writers.
- Actively network with universities, international organizations, and private sector institutions for content partnerships.
- Expand upon existing partnerships to co-produce a series of articles, policy briefs, etc.
- Uphold the high quality and integrity of the content as the project grows.
- Shape the development of new formats (e.g., impact stories, book reviews).

Requirements

Editorial expertise

- Experience with professional copy-editing and writing, ideally across multiple formats in the environmental, water, or SDG space.
- Excellent written and spoken command of the English language.

Leadership & teamwork

- Ability to define a vision, set targets, and inspire others.
- Constructive feedback team-building skills.
- Ability to coordinate across time zones and work independently.
- Strong organizational skills and attention to detail.

Knowledge & technical skills

- Familiarity with water-related challenges and communicating water science to diverse audiences.
- Networking skills to build and maintain relationships with authors and partners.
- Proficiency with MS Office (Word, Excel, PowerPoint) and Google Drive equivalents.
- Creative problem-solving and adaptability.

Schedule: 4-8 hours per week, whenever and wherever you work best.

Location: Remote (personal computer required).

Benefits

- Involvement in a growing, dynamic international water network.
- Opportunity to contribute to paid projects, in addition to your volunteer role.
- Valuable leadership experience in team management, decision-making, and strategic planning.
- Expanding expertise in writing, editing, fact-checking, project management, and content strategy.
- Freedom for creativity and autonomy in your work.
- Free Microsoft Business Premium account.
- Access to training opportunities.

- Potential for further involvement in the organisation.

How to Apply

To apply as an Editor-in-Chief, please send us your CV (max 3 pages), a cover letter (max 1/2 page) and any number of articles, essays, policy briefs, papers, or other texts you have written or copy-edited in the past to contact@onewater.blue. If you have any other questions about the position, please contact us via the same email address.