THE PRODUCER

There are a number of factors that have an impact on the budget of a documentary film. The producer needs to be aware of these factors when planning the production.

- Travel and accommodation can be very expensive especially if the crew is large or the location involves difficult travel logistics.
- Actors, props and costumes are expensive and require extra time to set up and film. Inevitably if a filmmaker is using reconstruction then crews will have to be larger to include wardrobe, make up, lighting and continuity.
- Shooting time is another important factor. Some documentaries have a relatively small crew but a long shooting period; sometimes stretching into years.
- There are many other special factors that contribute to the cost of a film; helicopters and aerial shots, props and sets, celebrity on-screen presenters.