# Documentary Proposal Template

1. **Title Page** **–** A simple, clear summary of details like the title of the documentary, intended duration and your contact information
2. **Description of the Project** **–** A detailed overview of the documentary subject, style, format of documentary, and intended outcome (what you want to achieve by producing the documentary i.e., what is the **purpose** of the documentary?).
3. **Statement Proving Need** **–** Here, you must prove why the world needs your film **now**. How is your film different from others that tackle the same/similar topic?
4. **Description of Intended Audience** **–** Identify your intended audience and explain why you think that they would be interested in watching this documentary. How do you plan to engage your audience? Do you have a website and social network presence that can help you get the word out about your film? How can you extend your film so that it reaches and impacts many people?
5. **Treatment** **–** For many foundations, the treatment is the lynchpin of the proposal. Essentially, it is a prose version of what we’ll see onscreen when watching your film (this should include elements such as specific interviewees, what footage, graphics, text, music ideas, archive, stills, reconstructions etc.). The writing should be visual, with no intangible details like theme and intent.
6. **Legal & Ethical** – what legal and ethical issues may you be faced with whilst producing this documentary?
7. **Personnel** **–** Brief overview of any crew that you will need to produce your idea in full
8. **Distribution Plans –** Explain how you intend to reach your intended audience. Be as specific as possible I.e., where will the documentary be shown and why?