

LUNGGATI: A Filipino Musical Hybrid Animation Short Series in Exploring the Experiences of Overseas Filipino Workers and their Children with Infographic Website

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Abstract—The Overseas Filipino Workers (OFWs) have been facing challenges towards their work and especially towards their children. However, from a child's perspective, having an OFW parent impacts their upbringing. The study aims to explore the challenges of OFW parents and their children by producing a Filipino Musical Hybrid Animation with a Live-action Short Series. To validate the study, a mixed-methods technique was used to collect data and information. The researchers interviewed professionals who have insights about OFW parents and OFW children and surveyed OFW parents (25–45 years old) and OFW children (6–19 years old). The result showed that parents and children have different challenges with their lifestyle and with their relationship. Also, the researchers received a positive response regarding the project to help them acknowledge and understand it better.

Keywords: *OFW Parents, OFW Children, Musical, 2D Animation, 3D Background, Hybrid, Live Action, Short Series, Website.*

I. INTRODUCTION

A. Background of the Study

The Philippines acknowledges numerous heroes. Those who fought for their freedom, those who sacrificed their lives to aid people in recovering from illnesses, injuries, and those who opted to work in another country to support the well-being of their loved ones, also known as Overseas Filipino Workers, aspire to secure jobs with improved working

conditions and higher wages that can enable them to provide for their families, covering basic living expenses, healthcare, and their children's education.

Overseas Filipino workers, or OFW, are individuals from the Philippines who venture abroad in search of employment opportunities. As stated in the study of Leim, Pakingan, Garabiles, Sit, Buchert, Lam, and Hall (2022) [2], approximately 10 million Filipinos are currently employed in various overseas locations. The number of Overseas Filipino Workers (OFWs), or Filipino workers who worked abroad during the period April to September 2022, was estimated at 1.96 million. (Philippine Statistics Authority, Republic of the Philippines, (2023) [5].

In addition, according to the (Philippine Statistics Authority, Republic of the Philippines, 2023) [5]. The majority of Overseas Filipino Workers are working around Asia with an estimated percentage of 72.2%. And most OFWs in Asia are working in the Middle East. Most OFWs are women. Of the estimated 1.96 million in 2022, 1.13 million (57.8%) were women, while 828 thousand (42.2%) were males. Among the 1.13 million female OFWs, the majority (69.8%) are engaged in elementary occupations such as washers, cleaners, and domestic helpers.

Both OFW and migrants face many difficulties, such as language and cultural differences, mental health issues, and healthcare concerns. Working in a foreign environment, particularly when they are alone, presents significant challenges

(Liem, Pakingan, Garabiles, Sit, Burchert, Lam, and Hall, 2022) [2].

Examining the situation from an alternative standpoint, a child's life can be quite demanding when they are raised without one or both parents. The absence of proper parenting significantly affects their development.

In line with this, the research group, B3yond, conducted research about the OFW mothers and their children. The project is a musical animated series which aims to highlight the experiences of OFW mothers and their children and explore the experiences about the relationship of both OFW mothers and the children to acknowledge and understand their situations.

The study entitled Life challenges of Overseas Filipino Workers (OFW) discusses the situations faced by parents leaving their loved ones behind for work. OFW are now considered as “Modern Day Heroes,” people see having OFW parents as lucky because they can get a better salary, and health care they do not receive from the Philippines. But people do not understand what difficulties the OFW are overcoming to provide for the needs of their loved ones (Bautista, Tamayo, 2023) [1].

Working abroad is challenging for both parents and their children. Numerous stories of Overseas Filipino Workers have been told, yet often the focus is solely on the experiences of the OFW mothers. In this project, the researcher aims to acknowledge the experiences, situations, and challenges faced both by OFW mothers working abroad and by their children. The Lunggati delves into two perspectives: the OFW mother and the children of OFW.

B. Objectives

The main objective of this study is to create a Filipino musical Hybrid animation short series with the use of a website to highlight the experiences of the OFW parents and their children. Moreover, the study aims to attain the following specific objectives:

- To produce 3-episode musical animated short series with the following episodes and themes:
 - Episode 1: ACT 1- General perspective of the daughter and mother
 - Episode 2: ACT 2 - Perspective of the mother
 - Episode 3: ACT 3 - Perspective of the daughter
- To compose and arrange original songs for each episode
- To establish a website that serves as a repository for the compilation of the project's creative works.
- Video compilation
- Animation assets
- Gallery Page
- To create an animated piece following the aesthetic principles of CalArts.
- To highlight the struggles faced by OFW parents and their children with Hybrid musical animation.

- To evaluate the short film's effectiveness using formative testing in terms of character design, story illustration, animation, and music.
- To evaluate the final appearance of the website in terms of UI/UX Design, content and of the website.

II. METHODOLOGY

A. Project development

This study's objective is to promote and let people know and understand the challenges of the OFW parent and their children. To produce the output of the project the researchers made use of multiple software's such as Procreate, Clip Studio Paint, Autodesk Maya, Adobe Illustration, Adobe Photoshop, Adobe Audition, Adobe Substance Painter to produce the assets for this project.



Figure 1. Gantt Chart: Pre-Production phase

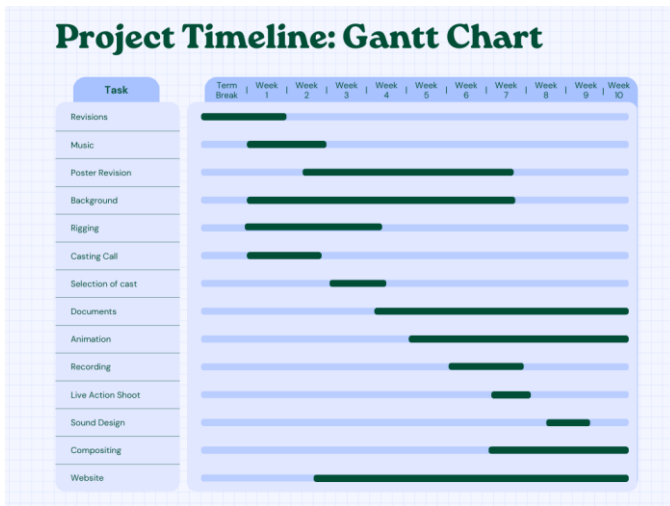


Figure 2. Gantt Chart: Production & Postproduction phase

With the guide of the Gantt Chart this will help with the flow and process of producing the final output of the series. More specifically during the production phase since each team member has their own task to achieve.

To produce the animation for this series A scrum diagram for all three Pre-Production, Production, and Postproduction was also made to see the feasibility of this project. For this project's duration, the researchers will have their own roles in producing the output. As shown in the figures below, the researchers carefully planned the flow of this project's development.



Figure 3. Scrum Diagram

B. Data Gathering and testing

With the need of gathering data from interviews and surveys the researchers discussed on having a mixed-research method with the use of interviews from people of experience and the researchers conducted formative and summative assessments of subject-matter specialists, technical experts, and the target audience segments that tested the output's technicality and effectiveness.

The formative assessment contains two parts. The researchers had conducted an internal evaluation that utilized a checklist for its testing instrument. Internal evaluations were conducted among the team, including the project mentor. As for the second part of the formative assessment of the project testing, the proponents interviewed an animation expert and a musical

expert to validate the project's musical animated series. They also invited an expert to discuss the project's subject matter and the content's suitability for its target audience. Moreover, the proponents also interviewed a web expert to test the project's website.

This evaluation occurs following the formative assessment phase. Its aim is to gauge the project's effectiveness with the target audiences. To carry out this phase, the research group will conduct beta testing, selecting a sample of participants from the OFW community and the children of OFWs to view the project series. Subsequently, these selected participants will complete a survey to gather feedback on its impact and effectiveness.

The target participants are OFW parents with an age range from 25-45 and for children of OFW within a range from 6-19, we also included a general audience which consisted of other family members of the OFW and some people who don't have a OFW family member. The group will be using a likert scale wherein five is equivalent to strongly agree and 1 to strongly disagree.

In addition to more information gathered, the researchers held a testing for the general audiences, most of them having an OFW family member to know what other family members also feel.

To get the maximum and the minimum range of the likert scale the researchers used the computation below to determine the difference between each category of the scale. To determine the category of the weighted average mean.

To get the weighted mean average on the summary of the results of all the surveys made the researchers first computed the average of each result for each question then for the weighted mean average all the answers for the average of each result would be calculated by finding its average to finally see the weighted mean average. The researchers then interpret the result with the use using the likert scale.

III. Results and Discussions

The researchers conducted formative and summative assessments of subject-matter specialists, technical experts, and the target audience segments that tested the output's technicality and effectiveness.

Formative Assessment

The formative assessment contains two parts. The researchers had conducted an internal evaluation that utilized a checklist for its testing instrument. Internal evaluations were conducted among the team, including the project mentor. As for the second part of the formative assessment of the project testing, the proponents interviewed an animation expert and a musical expert to validate the project's musical animated series. They also invited an expert to discuss the project's subject matter and the content's suitability for its target audience. Moreover, the proponents also interviewed a web expert to test

the project's website.

Summative Assessment

This evaluation occurs following the formative assessment phase. Its aim is to gauge the project's effectiveness with the target audiences. To carry out this phase, the research group will conduct beta testing, selecting a sample of participants from the OFW community and the children of OFWs to view the project series. Subsequently, these selected participants will complete a survey to gather feedback on the advocacy's impact and effectiveness. The target participants are OFW parents with an age range from 25-50 and for children of OFW win a range from 18-25. The group will be using a Likert scale wherein five is equivalent to strongly agree and 1 to strongly disagree.

Computation	Scale	Equivalent
$5 - 1 = 4$	1.00 - 1.80	Strongly Disagree
$4 / 5 = 0.8$	1.90 - 2.60	Disagree
$1 + 0.8 = 1.8$	2.70 - 3.40	Neutral
	3.50 - 4.20	Agree
	4.30 - 5.00	Strongly Agree

Figure 4. Likert Scale

IV. CONCLUSION

The goal of the research, which is to highlight the differences, has positive remarks based on the weighted mean differences: 1.19 for the children and 1.2 for the OFW parents, between the pre-assessment and post-assessment results. On the other hand, for the general audiences, which includes the relative of an OFW, the difference is 1.37 from pre-assessment and post-assessment results. Additionally, based on the data gathered, it was found that the lack of understanding between OFW parents and their children is visible. Based on the data gathered, parents sometimes struggle to comprehend their children's lifestyle, interests, and problems. On the other hand, based on the data collected, living without or with little parental guidance is a challenge for a child's upbringing. It also shows that the children have their own struggles that their parents do not know,

including their problems, lifestyle and interests. However, children often do not also know about their parents that much because of them living apart.

According to the study's result, the effectiveness of a musical hybrid animation short series is remarkable in highlighting the experiences of OFW and their children and their lack of understanding towards each other. The study gathered data for both formative and summative assessments and found out that the series is effective and relatable based on the result of the survey.

The Lunggati got a positive result from the parents and OFW parents, and also with children.

In conclusion the implementation of a musical hybrid adaptation has been proven as an effective tool for depicting the story of OFW and their children. Also, Both the formative assessment and summative assessment showed that the series is not only relatable but also effective in showing the experiences faced by both OFW parents and their children. The positive feedback has also further validated that the series is effective in bridging the gap of understanding between the OFW parents and their children.

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