## The 20<sup>th</sup> working trip to Rongshui, Guangxi (9<sup>th</sup> to 23<sup>rd</sup> August 2014)

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From 12<sup>th</sup> July to 23<sup>rd</sup> August, there were four working trips to Rongshui, Guangxi led by Dr. George C.K. Wong for the Dabao Community and Cultural Centre project. The schedule and composition of the working trip is a bit special this time: 3 groups in total were sent out in turn, and each group consisted of 2 members who spent 2 weeks in Rongshui to assist the supervision of the local contractors at the site and amend the design error. In Group 1, John Chong and Raymond Wei, stayed in Rongshui from 12<sup>th</sup> to 25<sup>th</sup> July; in Group 2, Frost Wu and Tony Law, from 26<sup>th</sup> July to 9<sup>th</sup> August; in Group 3, Tony Lu and Aeons Liu from 9<sup>th</sup> to 23<sup>rd</sup> August. The 3 groups all have similar working tasks and schedules during the 2 weeks' trip. Here is the track record of group 3's trip from 9<sup>th</sup> to 23<sup>rd</sup> August.

Arriving at Rongshui in the evening of 9<sup>th</sup> August, we stayed in the county town for one night and met Ir. Chan Shing, the senior resident engineer of the project in Dabao and also our supervisor for 2 weeks. On 10<sup>th</sup> August, we visited the local contractor who has been the only contractor of Project Mingde over a decade. After



consolidating the design amendments and details, we arrived at Hongshui town, where Dabao Village is in, the afternoon. Owing to the inconvenience of transportation, we drove to the remote mountain to Dabao Village from Hongshui everyday unless the work in the site had suspended due to unfavorable weather conditions.

Figure 1

During the 2 weeks, our tasks can mainly be divided into 2 parts: checking the drawings we brought from the design office to see if there is any discrepancy from the site; supervising the real site construction as well as learning the detailed skills of construction. Actually Guangxi was in raining season at that time so we haven't been to the site in Dabao until 13<sup>th</sup> August for the first time when the site resumed working.

As mentioned above, in the 2 weeks we spent great amount of time on discussing and finding out the error and mistakes on the drawing, as shown in Figure 1. On this table, the experienced supervisor, engineer of the local contractor and our assistant students could air their own ideas and discuss freely. During the process, we found out quite a number of errors to be corrected the drawing or design in the future.

On 14<sup>th</sup> August, we visited the first building of Mingde Project built a decade ago. The building (Mingde Building, as shown in Figure 2) is now required maintenance and further refurbishments. So afterwards we offered help to the contractors to work on the surveying and measuring works for the estimation of costs.



Regarding the site supervision works, we started to deal with it in depth after 15<sup>th</sup> August and especially on 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> August. As shown in Figure 3, we brought the drawing to the site thus we could check the feasibility and rationale of the design. Then as shown in Figure 4, we kept supervising all of the detailed works in site and sometimes need to be involved in it. Fixing the steel, placing and impacting the concrete, paving the steel rebar net, we were involved in all of the works and learnt many skills as well as regulation provisions from Ir. Chan.



Figure 3 & 4

By the end of group 3's trip on 22<sup>nd</sup> August, we summarized the result and held reflection during the 2 weeks and found ourselves so enriched. We supervised the site to finish the foundation construction and reinforcement steel bar paving for the first floor, and we have listed a table of errors and mistakes in the design drawing. All of this information can add to our power of optimizing the project in the future, contributing the success of Project Mingde eventually.