

## **Reflection on Daping trip 3<sup>th</sup> – 7<sup>th</sup> April 2015**

**Martin Wong**

It was the first team visit to Daping Village, which is a potential site for our next project. The aim of this trip was to evaluate the feasibility to build education facilities there. We undergo land surveying and questionnaire survey.

This is the first time for me to do questionnaire survey. It is a very meaningful as I can get to know exactly the needs of the villagers by asking them questions directly and observing the current situation. Teachers there are passionate to maintain the school and to teach the students and they strongly hope that the school can sustain. Students are in need of a better living environment as the current dormitory can no longer provide enough beds for them.

It was also a great experience to have lunch with all the staffs there. They shared their experience with us in Daping primary school and provided us the best meals. I was grateful to their hospitality.

I really appreciate the principal Mr. Wang, who gave up a stable job and became a teacher in village school despite the fact that the salary is relatively low, he is passionate to maintain the school and he cares about the future of those kids living in rural area. Although the resource provided by the government is not enough, he still wants to improve the school and provide better education to the children there. Yet, there are still a lot to improve, especially the planning of the school and the organization of the school's facilities. We are ready, from the perspective of student, to sort out some of the existing problems, and I hope we can work together to improve it.

After having a preliminary assessment, we find that there are still a lot to do before the construction commence. We definitely need to gather all the information and assess the needs of the school. It is crucial for us to really think of the best solution that all of us think it worth and it can suit their needs. All these will certainly become our input to the feasibility study that we are going to work on after the trip.