

Reflection on Building a library for a local secondary school in Vietnam (12th June – 29th July 2016)

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It is the first time that I have travelled to other country. It is really a challenge for me, especially Vietnam is a developing country. I used to think that communist countries like Vietnam are extreme lack of human right. However, after I been to Vietnam, I found that Vietnam is quite open minded, that many foreign culture have assimilated into its own culture.

As an assistant engineer in the project, I am proud of the hard work all the people involved in the project. Since it is the first time for me to work in construction site, sometimes I felt a little bit powerless. I tried hard to devote in the construction, but there are still management skills that I require to learn in the future. Especially when a critical issue, like raining, design change, is encountered, I do not have any idea how to deal with it. Nevertheless, I have learnt a lot of method applied and gained experience in different construction stage. For example, I have learnt how to construct a brick wall with mortar, form the steel rebar with simple tools and fix the steel in designated location. Although the construction in Hong Kong usually have a mass input of plants and machines, the basic concept of these procedure still hold.

In project management, I realized that the communication is real important. Since there are at least three parties, client, contractor and consultant, involved in the construction, message delivery is more complex and indirect. Sometimes we should actively contact with other parties to make sure the construction plan is updated but not waiting for them to contact us.

Learn can also be outside the construction site, the surveying projects help us to understand the need of people, local culture as well as develop a sense of responsibility. This is the things that I cannot learnt from the text book or a normal internship.