

Reflection on Building a library for a local secondary school in Vietnam

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This is the first project I participated in Mingde and this is a very precious opportunity to involve in the construction of a library in a local secondary school. This project is definitely an achievement for myself. Working as a five people team for almost two months, had definitely enhanced my social skill and team cooperation skill. Throughout the internship project, I can have a glimpse on myself and reveals some weaknesses of myself such as lack of noting and drafting skills and report writing skills, however, my teammates helped me a lot and worked hard to finish the work eventually. Therefore, I had to thanks all the people especially my teammates for helping me during this project, I think it is the importance of team work, covering others weaknesses with your strength. Moreover, I had expanded my social network during the trip, either than meeting students from the social science faculty, I had also made some deep friendship with five of the interpreters from WorldVision and even some of the local students in the secondary schools which makes me feel very amazing. In short, exploring myself and meeting new friends were the main achievements I obtained.

In addition to the above achievements, I had learnt and participated in lots of civil engineering work. As nominated as an assistance resident engineering, either than doing the monitoring work such as taking site photo, writing site diary and studying the framing plan, we had also participated in most of the site work. Started by back filling the foundation of the library using shovels by our own hands, to bending steel bars, building brick walls, filling concrete columns and painting the walls. It is a very wonderful experience that building the library by your own hands and you can find fulfillment in working for a common goal for the whole team.

After visiting the site in Vietnam, the most unforgettable thing in my mind is the safety condition of the Vietnam workers. Standing on wooden pile with sharp nails with bare foot or slippers, mixing concrete without weighting of material and testing and setting up columns without water ruler, all are very dangerous acts and unacceptable in Hong Kong construction industry. They remind me about the importance of all the codes for safety and all the safety guidelines for workers. Safety is the most important consideration while I am making decision as an engineer. In conclusion, I am glad that I had this chance to join the internship project and made a lot of local and Vietnam friends, in addition many civil engineering technique and skills.