WONG Kwun Hei

From 20th to 23rd of October 2016, a group of twelve Project Mingde members went to Guangxi for supervising the construction of superstructure of the teacher's dormitory in Daping Primary School.

It was a great experience to see how the contractor there could continue the construction with some constraints in reality. It is important to know that straightly following the original design may not be a feasible way to finish the construction.

Besides, we had an opportunity to meet with the architects from Shanghai and know their major requirements of this construction project. It was surprising to me because they were mainly focus on the non-structural design and the appearance of the whole structure. Meanwhile, we could learn how to deal with architects through the meetings as a role of engineer.

In this trip, we were not only focus on the site visit, but also the living condition of people in there. We have concluded that the construction of buildings may not be the way to improve their living standards, but to teach them some basic knowledge such as making good use of present resources and the importance of hygiene.

Thanks to the construction of concrete road, we were able to walk for around 1 hour to our destination. The views of Guangxi observed from the mountains were really good.

Overall, it was a great chance for us to learn not only the knowledge about structural engineering, but also the social problems in mainland China.