This visit to Guigang was the first time I participated in Project Mingde. Prior to trip, I doubted what a government and laws student such as myself would be able to achieve. Without an engineering, surveying or architectural background, what could I do to help the construction of a kindergarten in Duling Primary School?

I was tasked with interviewing the local population regarding the surrounding area, their household background, as well as their expectations for the kindergarten. From the numerous interviews conducted over the weekend, villagers told us how much they yearned to have a kindergarten in their village to allow their children have some form of education before receiving formal education. It allowed me to recognize that, regardless of background, parents (and grandparents) would want their best for their children. This struck me hard when I learnt that almost all adults had departed the village to work in the city to provide a better life for their families, and seldom had a chance to see their children.

I was able to apply my knowledge on research methods on the design and construction of the questionnaire to make it most precise and unbiased as possible. This allowed us to gain accurate insight into what the community needed, which would aid in the designing and construction process of the kindergarten.

This trip was an enjoyable experience filled with joy and laughter. I would like to thank Project Mingde and the Department of Civil Engineering for providing this rare opportunity to widen my horizons.