

**Student participant's reflection:**

Jimmy Mok – This was my first time witnessing severe flooding in Rongshui after watching pictures of it for several times. It was very shocking to see and feel along with the locals how their lives were affected by large-scale flooding, which normally occur only once or twice a year. Almost half of the city centre was flooded this time and in some low-lying areas, water even went up to a few metres above ground. Thousands of people were evacuated and their homes and shops were severely damaged as well. Even in areas that were not flooded, flooding still affected the people there by interrupting the power and fresh water supply. The only thing worth celebrating for was that the storm and flooding were forecasted and people have got prepared in advance, like lifting valuables from ground and evacuating to high-lying areas. This event taught me about the importance of infrastructures on a society. Maintaining the quality of infrastructures and relating services, such as drainage, power and fresh water supply, is not different from maintaining the quality of people's lives.

