

# Mingde Project Vietnam

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## **Introduction**

This project is about construction of toilet in the local secondary school located in the rural area of Vietnam to improve the water and sanitation of that particular region. This involved experiences such as construction work, needs assessment, video production and education of the school students about the hygiene practice.

## **Perspective about outside world**

The overall experience gave a lot of impacts on my perspective towards the world. For instance, I was able to broaden my view outside my comfort zone. Although, I can say that I have more experience outside my home country, South Korea compared to other Koreans in my age, whose experience was only limited to the places where I lived, which are Seoul, Shanghai and Hong Kong, without any inconvenience. My perspective about the outside world, however, was able to be broadened to Vietnam after the two months experience of local Vietnamese environment as well as the engagement with the local society.

## **Water & Sanitation**

Not only about the Vietnam, but I was able to know more about the water and sanitation issues worldwide, where I was not able to know that water and sanitation plays a big role in daily life, and the fact that a lot of population, including those in Vietnam, are suffering from the absence of these safe water and sanitation. This gave me impressions that I should be having more experience in going abroad and experiencing something that cannot be seen in my comfort zone. This is because limiting myself in the comfort zone would not allow me to broaden my perspective, which can lock me up inside that zone, without developing my sight looking beyond that zone.

## **Reflection**

Throughout my stay in Vietnam I had an opportunity to do construction work, which I don't even know if I will be ever doing it again for all of my life. It was exhausting, but I consider as one of the unique experience that I got from this trip. I was also able to talk with lots of local students in the commune, where I was able to communicate with them and become friends. Although, I know that it would be almost impossible to meet them again, it was a fun experience to be able to interact with the local people in Vietnam. I consider that the working experience in Vietnam was full of communication and interaction. This is very important in my major of journalism, as I have to be able to understand the interpersonal interactions so that I can be able to communicate well with the readers and viewers. I also had an opportunity to practice my video production and editing skills, where I was able to know how to deal with the problem when there is no sufficient equipment for the video making process.

## Conclusion

In conclusion, I would consider the working experience in Vietnam as one of the most memorable moments in my life, where it was able to give me an opportunity to think about how the life outside the comfort zone is like. I was also able to communicate a lot with other local people which gave me understandings about what good communication skill is.

