

Project Mingde - Vietnam
Luk Kwong Yun, BEng(CivE) II

As a trainee in civil engineering

It was the first time I work as an engineer. The detailed practical working experience in Vietnam trip were: having meetings with contractor and monitor the progress of construction work. In order to fulfil the work requirement, one should be knowledgeable in reading drawings and knowing the properties of different materials. Although the course studied in university only provide several simple examples for drawings and materials; in reality, the applications are rather complicated.

I was delighted that I could apply my academic knowledge to my internship. For example, during the construction work in June, we could have concern on the water problem like how to collect clean rainwater and prevent water overflow; we could raise questions about why contractor was not following the original design; we could also identify and evaluate potential health and safety issues in construction activities.

Last but not least, we had an opportunity in cooperating with people not from engineering field. In reality, engineers need to face different stakeholders, such as government, councillors and businessmen. In this trip, not only could I cooperate with students from other faculties, but I should also try to communicate with contractor, school and World Vision.

As an investigator in local society

Other than engineering work, the trip also includes CIP lessons, household visit and focused group discussion with local people. These activities helped me in comparing the difference between life in Hong Kong and life in Vietnam.

The life of Vietnam is less stressful than in Hong Kong. Vietnamese workers have plenty of resting time during their work, they can also enjoy more than two hours of nap every day. However, local workers earn very less. They could not enjoy the luxurious life that we are having.

But during the CIP lessons, what impressed me was that, the smile and positivity of children in both Vietnam and Hong Kong, were the same.

As a publisher in the trip

I had experience of taking photos and videos, as well as video-editing in my residential hall. This trip provided me an opportunity in advancing my publishing skills.

Much thanks for all the people helping us in the trip! Including interpreters Linh, Trinh, Fung and Uyne; our seniors Ryan, Elsa and Fiona; as well as representatives from World Vision, Hang and My.