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Before this Daping working trip, I thought the main responsibility of a civil engineer is to ensure that the contractor follows the structural drawing during the construction. However, I discovered that the jobs of civil engineer are not that simple. A civil engineer need to be the bridge connecting contractor, architect and client. Although the plan is well calculated by structural engineer, there may be something that is not practical at all. For example, in this Daping project, some walls need to be wider than 505mm to meet the safety regulation. However, it is not practical to build a brick wall more that 505mm width because one brick is around 240mm width, if we use 2 brick to build the wall, the wall will be a little bit short, if we use 3 brick, it will be too wide. Therefore, it is very important that civil engineer need to help contractor and structural engineer to communicate in order to build a practical and safe building.

In addition to civil engineer knowledge and experience, I also get some unforgettable experience. In this working trip, I discovered that the living environment of students is very undesirable. The dormitory of student is actually a classroom, there is not water supply and toilet, also the floor is full of mud and water. Since the dorm room is quite small, two to three students need to share one bed, it is very congested. I know there are still some poor people living in this kind of environment nowadays but it is quite shocking when I saw that. Therefore, I think building a new teacher dormitory can help the student to get a more satisfying living environment.

Besides, GuangXi people love drinking, they always want to drink with you in every meal. Although I seldom drink, I still drink a few because of their passion. However, I heard that people in GuangXi start to drink since they are only a secondary school student. I do not think this is a good thing because I believe that young people drink too much is not good to their growth. Nevertheless, it seems that there is not enough education of the harms of drinking and smoking in GuangXi. I think Project Mingde may offer some working trip to educate young people in GuangXi about the harms of drinking and smoking.