

Reflection on Guigang Working Trip (25th - 26th February, 2017)

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This was my second time heading to Guigang with Project Mingde. Different from the first trip, the educational background of HKU members is more diverse. Apart from civil engineering, some also study architecture, surveying, social sciences. Utilizing the specific knowledge of each member, the aims of this working trip are to conduct architectural survey, structural checking and interview villagers.

In spite of cold weather, once we arrived Duling Primary School, the school principal and teachers warmly welcomed us. They showed us their traditional cuisine, in which sweet potatoes and chicken are perfectly cooked under hot soil. With limited time, we immediately started our work. I was responsible for structural checking. Dr. Ray Su taught us how to observe and evaluate the structural stability and any potential danger of a building. I found the significance of technical knowledge learnt from class. More importantly, integrating specific knowledge with professional judgement is crucial for an engineer.

Besides, I learnt much on setting good questionnaires. Although we prepared the questions beforehand, some members found some problems in obtaining the interview data. Thus, we quickly amended the questionnaire at night. Social science student had contributed much on the amendment and throughout the process, I understood how to set questions with right focus and question type, which are surely useful in gathering the views of villagers. On the second day, together with my teammates, we went to nearby villages to interview. The interview was conducted successfully and we obtained different views of the villagers towards kindergarten education.

Although this 2-day-1-night trip was short, all of us were dedicated to work efficiently and effectively. I hope Project Mingde can bring constructive development to Duling Primary School in coming future.