

## **Reflection on Guigang Working Trip (25<sup>th</sup> - 26<sup>th</sup> February, 2017)**

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This is my first time joining the project organizing by Project Mingde and it was my pleasure to become one of the members in the team. The duration of the trip was only two days, though, it was meaningful and inspirational to me.

In this two-day trip, I was responsible for conducting survey and interviewing the villagers living near Duling Primary School. The aim of the survey and interview is to collect their opinions on building a kindergarten in the village. During the visit, although the interviewees and we had a few communication problems due to language and cultural barrier, they showed their patience and answered us in detail. I wanted to express my gratitude to the teachers of the primary school and student from the South China University of Technology for generously helping us with the culture in China and mandarin communication thus the process of conducting survey and interviewing went smooth. Spending two days with the teachers, I can deeply feel that the teachers are wholeheartedly dedicated to the school and children in the village. They put much effort on improving their education facilities in the village to make a better place for the growth of the youth. Besides, they can recognize every student they taught easily and get along with the students and parents well. Their attitude towards their work are definitely worth our respect.

Although there were not much opportunities for me to learn on the knowledge of civil engineering, I had a clearer concept of the work of a civil engineer and other building-related post. I learnt that being a civil engineer is not only for making money but having a mission to build and protect the others. This experience drives me to make an endeavor to study civil engineering as my major study in year 2. Besides, I learnt that the importance of understanding people's need before helping them. Simply providing materials we supposed they lack is not enough. Conversely, we have to observe and listen to them so that we can make a good plan to comply with their needs.

All in all, it is a precious experience for me to know more about the living condition and social problems there such as the problem of left-behind children. It is grateful to work with the team and I am looking forward to involving in the upcoming trips.