

## Guigang Visit Reflection

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It was the first time for me to meet local contractor together with architect at Guangxi. Due to the time constraints, all the tasks were done on the first day.

Firstly, we have a meeting with Guangxi government officials to discuss the procedures of building the new composite buildings. It provides me a change to understand the regulations and procedures for building an education facility in China is quite different from that in Hong Kong. In Hong Kong, if the land owner wants to change the use of land, land owners need to first apply for rezoning in Town Planning Board and may need to change the land lease with government if the rezoning is approved. However, in Guangxi it is simpler, they just need to apply directly to local government for approval. The time requires in Guangxi is shorter than that in Hong Kong.

Secondly, we discuss the toilet flushing system design with architect and local contractor. Basically, the idea is using rainwater as the toilet flushing water and using groundwater as a supplement when rain water is insufficient. The combination use of rainwater and groundwater can ensure the toilet have sufficient flushing water.

Thirdly, we visited the new toilet which is still under construction, but all the critical structural components were built leaving interior decoration works to be finished. The slabs, beams and columns that I saw in drawings few months ago are now turning into a structure in real-world. It is the first time for me to observe a design from drawings turn into a real-world structure.

Last but not least, we carry out some simply surveying on the existing primary school to make a layout plan. The data collected will be used for feasibility study of carrying renovation work to provide more teaching room for students.

I hope the regulatory process of the composite buildings can be done soon and the construction work can be carried out as soon as possible to provide a better teaching and learning environment to the children in Guangxi.