BRE Students take part in Sichuan Rebuilding Project 2009

From 15th-21st November 2009, 5 students from the Department of Building and Real Estate of The Hong Kong Polytechnic University took part in the Sichuan (China) Rebuilding Project 2009, which was jointly held by Habitat for Humanity China and Jimmy & Rosalynn Carter Work Project. About 220 volunteers from all over the world participated in this event for the rebuilding in Sichuan. The students from our University cooperated with the local technicians and workers to build new homes for the refugees and the needy, using bricks, cement, sand, concrete and steels. All strove their best despite the inhospitable conditions at the site, sub-zero temperatures, muscle fatigue and tiredness due to the long hours of physical labour. About 20 apartments were built during the period; works continued to be undertaken by the local technicians and workers who aimed to have around 200 apartments completed by the end of 2010. All the 5 volunteers from our University found the event highly meaningful, as they had not only brought into existence new homes, but also brought smiles to the faces of the originally homeless and rekindled their hopes. All the participants found the experience highly rewarding and would like to thank their Department for the contribution towards their accommodation and transportation expenses in Sichuan. They were also thankful to Morgan Stanley for their valuable support, without which they could not have participated in the event.