S.O.T. SYSTEMS OF TIMOR

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Rua de Ai Meti Laran, Comoro, Dom Aleixo, Dili

JOB PROFILE

Agricultural extension officer / agronomist

Extensionista agríkola / agrónomu

Agriculture, fisheries & forestry · ISCO-08 2132 / 3142

Agronomists and agricultural extension officers study soils, crops and farm methods, and they help farmers grow more and lose less to pests and disease. The national plan wants to raise the skills of extension workers and train every extension officer who works with upland crops.

TRAIN IN TIMOR	**University degree** UNTL Faculty of Agriculture
COURSE LENGTH	**To confirm** No published source yet
IN TIMOR	**Priority** Named in national plans
ABROAD	**No official programme yet** Australia PEV: any job, with a job offer
PAY IN TIMOR	**US$292–320 / month** Averages for all professionals (US$292) and technicians and associate professionals (US$320) in Timor-Leste, not this job alone (Labour Force Survey 2021)

WHAT YOU DO

Study the land: Test soil, water, seeds and plants; Find out why a crop grows badly; Try new crops and methods in test plots.

Advise farmers: Visit farmers in their fields; Advise on seeds, planting, fertiliser and crop rotation; Show how to control pests and plant disease.

Teach and demonstrate: Run training days and field demonstrations; Explain new tools and techniques in simple words; Help farmer groups plan their season.

Record and report: Collect data on harvests and problems; Write reports for the ministry or your organisation; Keep up with new research.

Based on the ILO descriptions of ISCO-08 unit groups 2132, Farming, forestry and fisheries advisers, and 3142, Agricultural technicians.

WHERE YOU WORK

Villages and farms (Suco extension officers work across the country); Research (A planned research institute of agronomists and technicians); Government (Agriculture services and offices); NGOs and private firms (The plan says NGO and private extension officers will be trained too).

You spend much of your time outdoors, travelling to farms on rural roads, in sun and rain. The rest is office work: planning, data and reports.

The Government plans a public agricultural research laboratory and an Agricultural Research and Development Institute made up of agronomists and technicians. It also wants a better agricultural extension service.

The national plan says public extension services reach only some farmers, so farmers also need short training courses.

IS IT FOR ME?

You are good at: Biology and science, Explaining things simply, Listening to people, Careful notes and records, Travelling and walking.

You like: Plants and farming, Being outdoors, Rural communities, Testing new ideas.

Speaking Tetun and local languages helps you talk with farmers. English and Portuguese help with research and reports.

TRAIN FOR IT IN TIMOR-LESTE

- **Faculdade de Agricultura, UNTL** · National university. Its fields include agronomy (agronomia) and soil science (ciência do solo). Course titles: to confirm.

Degree length, fees and entry rules: to confirm with UNTL. No INDMO national certificate for this job is listed yet, and the published list is incomplete. The directory never shows a number without a source.

WHERE IT LEADS

- **Field crop and vegetable grower** · A first step: Técnico de Produção Agrária at a technical secondary school (ISCO 6111)
- **Extension officer or agronomist** · University degree in agriculture
- **Researcher or programme manager** · Leads research or extension campaigns after years of experience
- **Your own farm-advice or agribusiness** · Startups of Timor helps you start one

WORK ABROAD, SAFELY

- **Australia: Pacific Engagement Visa** · No official programme recruits Timorese workers for this job yet. Australia's Pacific Engagement Visa allows any occupation, but you need a job offer first.

Never pay a fixer. Join only through SEFOPE, the Timor-Leste government office for work abroad. No one can sell you a place, and a real overseas job never asks you for a recruitment fee.

SOURCES

1. ILO, ISCO-08 unit groups 2132 Farming, forestry and fisheries advisers and 3142 Agricultural technicians https://www.ilo.org/public/english/bureau/stat/isco/isco08/
2. Government of Timor-Leste, Strategic Development Plan 2011–2030 (agriculture-related training and extension) https://timor-leste.gov.tl/wp-content/uploads/2011/07/Timor-Leste-Strategic-Plan-2011-20301.pdf
3. Programme of the IX Constitutional Government 2023–2028, §4.2.1 Agriculture https://timor-leste.gov.tl/wp-content/uploads/2023/07/EN-Programa-IX-Governo.pdf
4. UNTL faculties: Faculdade de Agricultura (agronomia, ciência do solo) https://www.untl.edu.tl/estudo/faculdades/
5. Diploma Ministerial 8/ME/2013: technical secondary courses (ESTV). Whether the 2013 list is still current: to confirm https://mj.gov.tl/jornal/?q=node%2F3983
6. APTC, Timor-Leste Skills Strategy 2022, Annex I (INDMO qualification titles) https://24045200.fs1.hubspotusercontent-na1.net/hubfs/24045200/Files/Timor-Leste%20Skills%20Strategy%202023.pdf
7. Pacific Engagement Visa: any occupation, job offer needed (employer fact sheet 2025) https://pev.gov.au/sites/default/files/2025-02/PEV%20for%20Employers%20Fact%20Sheet_2025.pdf
8. Labour Force Survey 2021, Table 29: average monthly wage of employees by occupation group https://www.ilo.org/sites/default/files/wcmsp5/groups/public/%40asia/%40ro-bangkok/%40ilo-jakarta/documents/publication/wcms_863064.pdf

From the Servisu jobs directory. Every figure has a source; "to confirm" means none yet. http://servisu.oftimor.com/jobs-directory/agricultural-extension-officer-agronomist/?lang=en