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JOB PROFILE

# Air-conditioning & refrigeration mechanic

Mekániku ar-kondisionadu no refrijerasaun

Mechanics, electrical & technical · ISCO-08 7127

Air-conditioning and refrigeration mechanics install, service and repair air-conditioners, fridges, freezers and cold rooms. In Timor-Leste employers named it one of the five hardest jobs to fill.

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| TRAIN IN TIMOR | **Certificate I–II**<br>INDMO national certificates |
| COURSE LENGTH | **To confirm**<br>No published source yet |
| IN TIMOR | **Hard to fill**<br>Enterprise survey 2017 |
| ABROAD | **No official programme yet**<br>Australia: any job with an offer |
| PAY IN TIMOR | **US$276 / month**<br>Average for all craft & trades workers in Timor-Leste, not this job alone (Labour Force Survey 2021) |

## WHAT YOU DO

**Install:** Fit compressors, motors, condensers and fans; Join pipes by bolting, brazing or welding; Connect switches, gauges and controls.

**Test and fill:** Test the system for leaks with gauges; Fill the system with refrigerant gas; Check that it cools to the right temperature.

**Service and repair:** Clean filters and coils on a regular plan; Find faults and replace broken parts; Repair fridges, freezers and cold rooms.

**Work safely:** Handle refrigerant gas with care; Switch off the power before you open a unit; Work safely on ladders and roofs.

Based on the ILO description of ISCO-08 unit group 7127, Air conditioning and refrigeration mechanics.

## WHERE YOU WORK

Repair companies (Visits to homes, offices and shops); Hotels, hospitals & offices (Keeping big buildings cool); Shops & markets (Fridges, freezers and cold rooms); Fishing and food (The national plan calls for refrigerated links for fish).

You move between jobs during the day, often on a motorbike or in a van. Work can be in hot roof spaces, outside, or in cold rooms.

In 2017 AC repair was one of the trades employers hired most from training centres. The national plan says the lack of reliable refrigeration is a major barrier for selling fish, and it plans a jetty with refrigeration at Manatuto.

## IS IT FOR ME?

**You are good at:** Finding out why something is broken, Careful, exact work, Following safety rules, Basic electrics, Talking with customers.

**You like:** Machines and tools, Working with your hands, Moving around, not sitting all day, Solving puzzles.

Manuals and gauges are often in English, so English helps.

## TRAIN FOR IT IN TIMOR-LESTE

- **Certificate I in RAC** · INDMO national certificate
- **Certificate II in Refrigeration Air Conditioning (RAC)** · INDMO national certificate
- **SENAI-Becora (CNFP Becora), Dili** · Named in 2011 as teaching refrigeration. Whether it still does: to confirm.

Course length and fees: to confirm with INDMO and each centre. The directory never shows a number without a source.

## WHERE IT LEADS

- **Helper** · Certificate I in RAC
- **AC & refrigeration mechanic** · Certificate II in Refrigeration Air Conditioning (RAC)
- **Building electrician** · A related trade with INDMO Certificates I–IV (ISCO 7411)
- **Your own AC repair business** · Startups of Timor helps you start one

## WORK ABROAD, SAFELY

- **Australia: Pacific Engagement Visa** · There is no official programme that sends Timorese AC and refrigeration mechanics abroad 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


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5. 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
6. 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/air-conditioning-refrigeration-mechanic/?lang=en