S.O.T. SYSTEMS OF TIMOR

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

JOB PROFILE

Domestic worker

Traballadór doméstiku

Personal, domestic & cleaning services · ISCO-08 9111

Domestic workers clean homes, wash and iron clothes, buy household supplies, cook and serve meals, and do other household work for the family that employs them. In the 2022 Census, 6,799 people worked in the industry "households as employers": 4,619 women and 2,180 men.

TRAIN IN TIMOR	**No national course listed** The list we have is incomplete
COURSE LENGTH	**To confirm** No published source yet
IN TIMOR	**6,799 people** Census 2022: households as employers
ABROAD	**No official programme yet** Australia PEV: any job, with a job offer
PAY IN TIMOR	**US$164 / month** Average for all workers in elementary jobs in Timor-Leste, not this job alone (Labour Force Survey 2021)

WHAT YOU DO

Clean the home: Sweep, mop and wash floors; Dust and polish furniture; Clean the kitchen, bathroom and windows.

Wash clothes: Wash and dry clothes; Iron and fold clothes; Look after bed sheets, towels and other household linen.

Cook and shop: Buy food and household supplies; Prepare, cook and serve meals; Wash the dishes and keep the kitchen clean.

Keep the home in order: Tidy rooms and put things away; Take out the rubbish; Tell the family when something is broken or running out.

Based on the ILO description of ISCO-08 unit group 9111, Domestic cleaners and helpers.

WHERE YOU WORK

Private homes (Working for one family); Several homes (Cleaning or washing for different families by the day).

The work is physical: you are on your feet, bending and lifting most of the day. Agree clearly with your employer on your hours, days off and tasks.

In the Census, women hold 67.9% of jobs in "households as employers". This group also includes households producing goods and services for their own use, so not all of these people are domestic workers. The government plans to propose rules for domestic work in the labour law.

IS IT FOR ME?

You are good at: Keeping things clean and tidy, Cooking, Being reliable, Organising your time, Working on your own.

You like: Looking after a home, Cooking for others, Helping families, A steady routine.

Keep a simple note of your hours and pay days, so you and your employer agree.

TRAIN FOR IT IN TIMOR-LESTE

- **No national course listed yet** · The published list of INDMO titles has no course for domestic work, and that list is incomplete.

Most domestic workers learn on the job. Cleaning and cooking skills can also lead to hotel work: see the Room attendant and Cook pages. Course length and fees: to confirm.

WHERE IT LEADS

- **Domestic worker** · Learn on the job
- **Room attendant / housekeeper** · Hotel housekeeping; Certificate II in Accommodation Hospitality Service (ISCO 9112)
- **Your own cleaning or laundry business** · 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

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2. INETL with ILO, 2022 Census Thematic Report on Labour Force (Oct 2024), Figure 3: employment by industry and sex (industry T, households as employers) https://www.laohamutuk.org/DVD/DGS/Cens22/241203INETLThematic-report-labour-force_2022.pdf
3. Programme of the IX Constitutional Government 2023–2028 (18 Jul 2023), §4.8 Employment https://timor-leste.gov.tl/wp-content/uploads/2023/07/EN-Programa-IX-Governo.pdf
4. 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
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/domestic-worker/?lang=en