S.O.T. Systems of Timor
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Rua de Ai Meti Laran, Comoro, Dom Aleixo, Dili

JOB PROFILE

Motor vehicle mechanic

Mekániku kareta

Mechanics, electrical & technical · ISCO-08 7231

Motor vehicle mechanics find faults in cars, trucks and buses, and then service and repair their engines, brakes, steering and other parts. In Timor-Leste employers named it one of the five hardest jobs to fill.

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

WHAT YOU DO

Find the fault: Talk with the driver about the problem; Inspect and test the vehicle; Use testing tools to find what is wrong.

Repair: Take apart, repair or replace engine parts; Fix brakes, steering, suspension and gearboxes; Fit new parts and accessories.

Service: Change oil, filters and tyres; Tune the engine so it runs well; Test-drive the vehicle after the work.

Keep the workshop running: Keep tools and the workshop clean and safe; Write down the work done and parts used; Explain the repair to the customer.

Based on the ILO description of ISCO-08 unit group 7231, Motor vehicle mechanics and repairers.

WHERE YOU WORK

Garages & workshops (Repairs for the public); Car dealers (Servicing new vehicles); Company fleets (Trucks, buses and project vehicles); Government & NGOs (Keeping their vehicles on the road).

Workshops are hot, oily and noisy. You stand, bend and lie under vehicles, and you lift heavy parts.

In 2017 companies hired many foreign workers as motor vehicle mechanics. 34 foreign motor mechanics held work permits. That is work a trained Timorese mechanic can take.

Automotive was the second trade employers hired most from training centres in 2017, after construction and masonry.

IS IT FOR ME?

You are good at: Finding out why something is broken, Using tools, Patience, Careful, exact work, Talking with customers.

You like: Cars and engines, Working with your hands, Solving puzzles, Learning new technology.

Repair manuals are often in English, so English helps.

TRAIN FOR IT IN TIMOR-LESTE

- **Certificate II in Automotive Servicing – Light Vehicles** · INDMO national certificate
- **Certificate III in Light Vehicle Mechanic** · INDMO national certificate
- **Mecânica Automóvel** · Technical secondary school course (ESTV)
- **CNFP Becora, Dili** · Teaches automotive. Certificate level to confirm.
- **Don Bosco Training Center, Comoro** · Its automotive workshop was upgraded with ADB support in 2013. Current courses 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

- **Workshop helper** · Certificate II in Automotive Servicing – Light Vehicles
- **Motor vehicle mechanic** · Certificate III in Light Vehicle Mechanic
- **Heavy machinery mechanic** · Trucks, plant and industrial machines (ISCO 7233)
- **Your own garage** · Startups of Timor helps you start one

WORK ABROAD, SAFELY

- **Australia: Pacific Engagement Visa** · There is no official programme that sends Timorese motor 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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3. 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
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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/motor-vehicle-mechanic/?lang=en