S.O.T. Systems of Timor
+67077192122
Rua de Ai Meti Laran, Comoro, Dom Aleixo, Dili

JOB PROFILE

Petroleum engineer

Enjeñeiru petróleu

Petroleum, energy & engineering · ISCO-08 2146

Petroleum engineers find the best ways to get oil and gas out of the ground or the seabed safely. They plan and watch over drilling, wells and production. Petroleum is one of Timor-Leste's strategic industries, and the Government plans big projects on the south coast. Many of these jobs will only come when the projects are built, so treat this as a job for the future.

TRAIN IN TIMOR	**University degree** DIT Petroleum Engineering
COURSE LENGTH	**To confirm** No published source yet
IN TIMOR	**Priority · future demand** Depends on Tasi Mane project timing
ABROAD	**No official programme yet** Australia PEV: any job, with a job offer
PAY IN TIMOR	**US$292 / month** Average for all professionals in Timor-Leste, not this job alone (Labour Force Survey 2021)

WHAT YOU DO

Study the field: Work with geologists to find where oil and gas are; Estimate how much oil or gas a field holds; Use computer models to plan how to get it out.

Plan the wells: Design wells and choose drilling methods; Choose pipes, pumps and other equipment; Work out the time and resources each job needs.

Watch over drilling and production: Supervise drilling on land or at sea; Test wells and check how much they produce; Find ways to get more out of old wells.

Keep it safe: Follow strict safety rules on rigs and plants; Help protect the sea and land from spills; Write reports for managers and the regulator.

Based on the ILO description of ISCO-08 unit group 2146, Mining engineers, metallurgists and related professionals, which includes petroleum engineers.

WHERE YOU WORK

Oil and gas fields at sea (The Timor Sea, including Greater Sunrise); South-coast projects (Suai supply base, Betano refinery, a planned LNG plant); National oil company (TIMOR GAP manages the Tasi Mane project); Government and regulators (Also named as careers by DIT).

Work at sea is done in shifts on rigs and platforms, far from home for weeks at a time. Office work in Dili is on plans, data and contracts.

The Government says the Tasi Mane project could create up to 10,000 direct jobs. But in 2023 the refinery was still waiting for its environmental licence, and the gas pipeline from Greater Sunrise was still being negotiated. The National

Employment Strategy also says downstream petroleum industries, such as petrochemicals, could create many jobs, but low technology and skills hold them back.

IS IT FOR ME?

You are good at: Maths, physics and chemistry, Solving hard problems, Working with data and computers, Following safety rules, Teamwork.

You like: Science and technology, Big projects, Working at sea or on remote sites, Planning for the long term.

English is needed: the oil and gas industry works in English. Because jobs depend on project timing, related skills such as mechanical or chemical engineering keep more doors open.

TRAIN FOR IT IN TIMOR-LESTE

- **Petroleum Engineering, Dili Institute of Technology (DIT)** · School of Petroleum Studies. Degree level and length: to confirm.
- **Scholarships in petroleum and geology** · The Government plans to keep giving scholarships for oil, mining and geology. The national plan also names secondments to international oil and gas companies.
- **Higher Polytechnic Institute of Engineering, Suai** · Planned in the Government programme 2023–2028. Courses: to confirm.
- **Geology and Petroleum degree, UNTL** · Planned in 2011 for the UNTL engineering faculty in Hera. Whether it runs now: to confirm.

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

WHERE IT LEADS

- **Petroleum engineering student** · DIT Petroleum Engineering
- **Petroleum engineer** · Learn on the job, in Timor-Leste or abroad
- **Petroleum manager or analyst** · DIT Petroleum Management (ISCO 1219 / 2413)

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 group 2146 Mining engineers, metallurgists and related professionals (includes petroleum engineers) https://www.ilo.org/public/english/bureau/stat/isco/isco08/
2. Dili Institute of Technology, School of Petroleum Studies: Petroleum Engineering and Petroleum Management https://www.dit.edu.tl/school-of-petroleum.html
3. Government of Timor-Leste, Strategic Development Plan 2011–2030: petroleum sector, Tasi Mane, petroleum training https://timor-leste.gov.tl/wp-content/uploads/2011/07/Timor-Leste-Strategic-Plan-2011-20301.pdf
4. Programme of the IX Constitutional Government 2023–2028, §4.3 Tasi Mane project and higher technical education https://timor-leste.gov.tl/wp-content/uploads/2023/07/EN-Programa-IX-Governo.pdf
5. National Employment Strategy 2017–2030 (Government Resolution 44/2017): downstream petroleum https://timor-leste.gov.tl/wp-content/uploads/2017/07/National-Employment-Strategy-2017-2030.pdf
6. 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
7. 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/petroleum-engineer/?lang=en