S.O.T. SYSTEMS OF TIMOR

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

JOB PROFILE

Ship's deck crew / seafarer

Tripulante ró / marinheiru

Transport & logistics · ISCO-08 8350

Deck crew work on ships, ferries and other boats. They handle ropes and moorings, keep watch, help steer, and look after the deck and its equipment. The Government plans better harbours and a study for a national coastal shipping line for people and cargo.

TRAIN IN TIMOR	**No national course listed** No maritime title in the published list
COURSE LENGTH	**To confirm** No published source yet
IN TIMOR	**To confirm** No demand data for Timor-Leste yet
ABROAD	**No official programme yet** Australia PEV: any job, with a job offer
PAY IN TIMOR	**US$217 / month** Average for all plant & machine operators in Timor-Leste, not this job alone (Labour Force Survey 2021)

WHAT YOU DO

Work the deck: Handle ropes and mooring lines when the ship arrives and leaves; Help load, secure and unload cargo; Work winches, cranes and other deck machines.

Keep watch and steer: Look out for other ships, rocks and dangers; Steer the ship when an officer tells you; Pass on signals and messages.

Look after the ship: Clean, scrape and paint the deck and the hull; Check and repair ropes and deck gear; Look after lifeboats and safety equipment.

Safety at sea: Take part in fire and lifeboat drills; Help passengers in an emergency; Follow the orders of the ship's officers.

Based on the ILO description of ISCO-08 unit group 8350, Ships' deck crews and related workers.

WHERE YOU WORK

Ports (The Government wants Tibar Harbour to be the main port); Ferries (In 2011 ferries ran from Dili to Oecusse and Atauro); Cargo ships (In 2011 there was direct shipping to Darwin, Kota Kinabalu, Surabaya and Singapore); Supply boats and tugs (The planned Suai logistics base has a tugboat berth).

You live on board for days or weeks, in shifts, in heat, wind and rough seas. The work is physical and can be dangerous.

The Government plans better harbours at Com and Atauro, a new one at Kairabela, lighthouses, and a stronger maritime authority. It also wants to train young people for jobs in the "blue economy" of the sea. The 2022 Census counted 7,547 people working in transport and storage.

IS IT FOR ME?

You are good at: Swimming, Hard physical work, Following orders, Staying calm in danger, Teamwork.

You like: The sea, Travel, Working with your hands, Living with a crew.

Rules for seafarer papers, such as safety certificates and medical checks: to confirm. English helps on ships that sail abroad.

TRAIN FOR IT IN TIMOR-LESTE

- **No national maritime certificate listed yet** · The published list of INDMO titles has no maritime course, and that list is incomplete.
- **CNEFP Tibar: Maritime Safety for Fishermen** · Related: a sea safety course for fishers. Level not stated.
- **Técnico de Pescas** · Related: technical secondary school course (ESTV) in fisheries
- **Academy of Fisheries and Marine Studies, Manatuto** · Planned in the Government programme 2023–2028. Whether it will train ship crew: to confirm.

Seafarer certificates, where to get them and how long they take: to confirm. The directory never shows a number without a source.

WHERE IT LEADS

- **Fisher or fishing deckhand** · Learn the sea close to the coast
- **Ship's deck crew** · Ferries, cargo ships and supply boats
- **Bosun or deck officer** · Needs higher certificates. Where to train: to confirm.
- **Your own boat 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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4. INETL with ILO, 2022 Census Thematic Report on Labour Force (Oct 2024), Figure 3: employment by industry and sex https://www.laohamutuk.org/DVD/DGS/Cens22/241203INETLThematic-report-labour-force_2022.pdf
5. 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
6. Tatoli, 251 young Timorese complete vocational training at CNEFP, 20 Nov 2025 https://en.tatoli.tl/?p=66213
7. 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
8. 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
9. 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/ships-deck-crew-seafarer/?lang=en