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JOB PROFILE

Street-food vendor

Faan-na'in ai-han iha dalan

Retail, sales & trade · ISCO-08 5212

Street-food vendors cook and sell food and drinks, or sell food made earlier, for people to eat straight away on the street and in public places such as stations.

TRAIN IN TIMOR	**No national course listed** The list we have is incomplete
COURSE LENGTH	**To confirm** No published source yet
IN TIMOR	**To confirm** No published demand data yet
ABROAD	**No official programme yet** Australia PEV: any job, with a job offer
PAY IN TIMOR	**US$200 / month** Average for all service & sales workers in Timor-Leste, not this job alone (Labour Force Survey 2021)

WHAT YOU DO

Buy and prepare: Buy fresh ingredients at the market; Wash, cut and cook the food; Make drinks such as coffee, tea or juice.

Sell: Set up your stall or cart in a busy place; Serve customers quickly and kindly; Take payment and give the right change.

Keep food safe: Keep your hands, tools and food covered and clean; Throw away food that is old or spoiled; Clean up your place at the end of the day.

Run your business: Write down what you spend and what you sell; Decide your prices; Plan how much to cook each day.

Based on the ILO description of ISCO-08 unit group 5212, Street food salespersons.

WHERE YOU WORK

Street stalls & carts (By the roadside or walking with your goods); Markets (Food for sellers and shoppers); Busy places (Near schools, ports, bus stops and offices); Events & festivals (Sports days, concerts and celebrations).

You work outdoors in sun, heat and rain, often early in the morning or late in the evening. What you earn depends on what you sell each day, so it can change a lot.

In 2017, employment centres helped 61 people become self-employed in food production, 29 of them women.

IS IT FOR ME?

You are good at: Cooking tasty food, Keeping things clean, Counting money quickly, Talking to people, Getting up early.

You like: Food and cooking, Being your own boss, Meeting people, Being outdoors.

Basic maths, and a notebook or phone to record your costs and sales, help you see if you are making a profit.

TRAIN FOR IT IN TIMOR-LESTE

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

Most vendors learn by doing. To train as a cook, see the Cook page. Course length and fees: to confirm.

WHERE IT LEADS

- **Helper at a food stall** · Learn by helping a vendor
- **Street-food vendor** · Start small and learn what your customers want
- **Cook** · Train for national cooking certificates (ISCO 5120)
- **Your own café, catering or food business** · Startups of Timor helps you start and grow 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

1. ILO, ISCO-08 unit group 5212 Street food salespersons https://www.ilo.org/public/english/bureau/stat/isco/isco08/
2. SEJT, Labour Market Outlook No. 7, Feb 2018 (self-employment support at employment centres, 2017) https://www.laohamutuk.org/DVD/2018/LMOFeb2018en.pdf
3. 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
4. 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
5. 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/street-food-vendor/?lang=en