S.O.T. SYSTEMS OF TIMOR

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

**JOB PROFILE**

# Surveyor

Topógrafu

Construction & building trades · ISCO-08 2165

Surveyors measure land, buildings and the shape of the ground. They mark boundaries, make maps and plans, and give the measurements that builders, engineers and land offices need. In 2017, 29 foreign workers held work permits in Timor-Leste as land surveyors (agrimensor).

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|---|---|
| **TRAIN IN TIMOR** | **No national course listed**<br>The published list is incomplete |
| **COURSE LENGTH** | **To confirm**<br>No published source yet |
| **IN TIMOR** | **Filled by foreign workers**<br>Foreign work permits, 2017 |
| **ABROAD** | **No official programme yet**<br>Australia: any job with an offer |
| **PAY IN TIMOR** | **US$292 / month**<br>Average for all professionals in Timor-Leste, not this job alone (Labour Force Survey 2021) |

## WHAT YOU DO

**Measure:** Measure distances, angles and heights on the ground; Use GPS, a total station and levels; Use photos taken from the air or from drones.

**Mark boundaries:** Find and mark where a piece of land begins and ends; Set out where roads and buildings will go; Check boundaries when people disagree.

**Make maps and plans:** Turn measurements into maps on a computer; Draw land plans for titles and registers; Keep accurate records of every survey.

**Advise others:** Give measurements to engineers and architects; Check that building work is in the right place; Write reports for clients and land offices.

Based on the ILO description of ISCO-08 unit group 2165, Cartographers and surveyors.

## WHERE YOU WORK

Land and property offices (Land titles and the cadastre); Construction and engineering (Roads, bridges and buildings); Survey firms (Work for private clients); Mining and energy projects (Mapping big sites).

You spend a lot of time outdoors, often on rough or steep ground, carrying equipment. Back in the office you work on a computer to make maps and plans.

The Government plans to finish the national cadastral survey and the registration of land and property, and to support training for cadastral technicians.

In 2017, 29 foreign workers held permits as "agrimensor", the Portuguese word for land surveyor. That is work a trained Timorese surveyor can take.

## IS IT FOR ME?

**You are good at:** Maths and geometry, Careful, exact work, Reading maps, Using computers and devices, Walking long distances.

**You like:** Being outdoors, Maps and technology, Travelling around the country, Getting the details right.

Land boundaries can cause disputes, so you need to stay neutral and polite. Good maths at secondary school helps.

## TRAIN FOR IT IN TIMOR-LESTE

- **No national course listed yet** · The published list of INDMO titles has no surveying course, and that list is incomplete.
- **Training for cadastral technicians** · Planned in the Government programme 2023–2028. Who runs it and how: to confirm.

Where to study surveying in Timor-Leste, course length and fees: to confirm. The directory never shows a course or a number without a source.

## WHERE IT LEADS

- **Civil-engineering technician** · A related start: helping with surveys on site (ISCO 3112)
- **Surveyor** · Training: to confirm
- **Senior surveyor** · Leads survey teams after years of experience
- **Your own survey business** · Startups of Timor helps you start one

## WORK ABROAD, SAFELY

- **Australia: Pacific Engagement Visa** · There is no official programme that sends Timorese surveyors 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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4. Government of Timor-Leste, Strategic Development Plan 2011–2030 (land titles; National Directorate for Land, Property and Cadastral Services) https://timor-leste.gov.tl/wp-content/uploads/2011/07/Timor-Leste-Strategic-Plan-2011-20301.pdf
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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/surveyor/?lang=en