

Making investing in Timor-Leste easy

TradelInvest's mission is to make it easy for investors and exporters to do business (a one stop shop that promotes, facilitates and monitors investments). TradelInvest strives to enable Timor-Leste to achieve its economic transformation to an upper-middle income country by 2030.

As the investment and export promotion agency of Timor-Leste, TradelInvest liaises between Ministries on behalf of investors; identifies, promotes, facilitates and manages investment opportunities; negotiates Special Investment Agreements and issues Declarations of Benefit; and monitors and supports investment projects.

All services offered by TradelInvest are free of charge.

Promote

As per Decree Law 58/2022, August 24, TradelInvest promotes potential productive sectors suitable for national and international investors by participating in international business forums, business matching, and business engagement.

TradelInvest promotes investment opportunities by linking investors with relevant government ministers. The TradelInvest Directorate of Investment Promotion supports investors to understand markets by assisting them participate in international fairs, expo and exhibitions.

The Directorate of Export Promotion is happy to supply information related to relevant legislation, processes and investment opportunities to the private sector.

Investor benefits

TradelInvest Directorate of Investment Promotion is a single point of contact for investors and coordinates the investment application process. To help make investing in Timor-Leste easy, the Directorate of Investment Promotion liaises with government ministries, eases customs and import processes, and works through any challenges on the ground.

A selection of companies who have obtained investor benefits include:

- Heineken Timor, S.A (Beverage Manufacturing)
- TL Cement, Lda (Cement Production)
- Palm Springs, Lda (Tourism)
- L & O Unipessoal Lda (Tourism)
- Banco Nacional Ultramarino (BNU), S.A. (Banking)
- Kaebauk Investimentu no Finanasa, S.A. (Credit Cooperative)
- Cladotis Fu Unipessoal Lda (Stock Feed Production)
- Happy Farm, Lda (Poultry Production)
- Acelda Unipessoal Lda (Candlenut oil Production)
- Tower Unipessoal Lda (Convention Centre)
- Stamford Medical, Lda (Medical)
- Consórcio Austim Beverages, S.A (Production and Bottling of Natural Mineral Waters)
- Aero Dili (Airline Connectivity)
- Timor Marine Square (Tourism)

TradelInvest facilitates companies in the administrative process to obtain benefits and incentives from the government through a Declaration of Benefit or Special Investment Agreement. Companies may be eligible for working visas, tax exemption and access to state land.

Investors granted government benefits contribute to the national economy, provide jobs, and introduce new technology, experience and skills to Timor-Leste.

To apply

To apply for a Declaration of Benefit:

Register your business in Timor-Leste with SERVE, the government business registration authority.

1. Receive from SERVE:
 - Certificate of Business Registration
 - Authorization to Conduct Activity
 - Business License

TradeInvest Directorate of Investment Promotion can now assist you to apply for a Declaration of Benefit:

2. Assess eligibility (sector, minimum investment, location, percentage foreign owned)
3. Complete Declaration of Benefit or Special Investment Agreement application forms
4. TradeInvest make technical analysis of documentation and forward to relevant ministries
5. TradeInvest liaise with government ministries as they provide technical comments, and submit a report to the supervisory body.

TradeInvest works with all involved agencies to facilitate the completion and approval of the Declaration of Benefit.

Monitor and support

TradeInvest Directorate of Investment Promotion monitors and evaluates Investor Certificate recipients to verify on the ground the practical implementations of investment projects. The results of the monitoring exercise are presented to the government, to ensure recipients of investor benefits have progressed investment activities, created employment and introduced new experiences, skills and technology while diversifying the economy.

Strategic Plan

TradeInvest's strategic plan supports the Government of Timor-Leste's economic development agenda for Timor-Leste to become an upper middle-income country by 2030.

TradeInvest activity aims to help grow the non-oil economy sustainably by:

- Developing and implementing Investment promotion plans in tourism, agriculture, fisheries, and processing industries progress existing large investment, after-care and dispute mechanism
- Implementing law change obligations
- Progressing existing large investments, aftercare, and dispute mechanisms
- Developing and implementing robust investment monitoring frameworks
- Implementing law change obligations