

FOOD GARDENS IN RAILWAY STATIONS INSTALLED BY THE *EAST JAPAN RAILWAY COMPANY*

In many large cities in the world, local governments implement various initiatives to green the city. In Japan, the novelty is that the protagonist of a project that allows citizens to get closer to nature is the *East Japan Railway Company*, which has installed rooftop gardens across the stations spaces. The idea was to contribute to the preservation and rediscovery of green and unused areas located close to the train station.

These food gardens called [Soradofarm](http://www.soradofarm.com/) are already operating in 13 stations around the country and people can rent out these common spaces to cultivate agricultural products.

The first *Soradofarm* was built of the Ebisu station in Tokyo over four years ago, creating a green rooftop in the station. The size of the green roof was limited and there was a long waiting list of people interested in renting a space to grow vegetables. The success of the initiative was so obvious that the project has been progressively improved and these gardens have been spread in other stations in the city and the country, served by the East Japan Railway Company.

The East Japan Railway Company collaborate with the station entertainment company to create a series of gardens on train stations, where commuters can create their own tiny gardens and tend to them while they wait for their train to arrive. The train station provides standard garden tools, seeds, advises from gardening experts. In this way, people who do not have enough space at home to install a garden or to do not have time to take care of plants, can rent these common spaces to grow vegetables or other seasonal agricultural products.

These gardens have become progressively not only green areas that contribute to sustainability of the urban environment, but also become points of reference for new social relations. The gardens are in fact not only frequented by commuters, but also by the families of the neighborhood moving by train for travelling. The new urban gardens are therefore becoming places where not only cultivate gardens, but a space where people organize many other social activities, useful to the community.

To know more

<http://www.soradofarm.com/>



[Video en Soradofarm](#)

[Artículo en Inhabitat](#)

[Artículo en Takepart](#)

[Artículo en Fastcoexist](#)

[Artículo en Quanturevolution.net](#)

[Artículo en pfsk.com](#)

[Artículo en treehugger.com](#)

