



# Activity Report 2022

At the service of quality of life

And sustainable development



**mouvement  
écologique**

# Activity Report 2022 - At the service of quality of life and sustainable development

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**STATEMENTS, PROJECTS, SURVEYS FROM THE ACTIVITY REPORT CAN ALL BE VIEWED AT [WWW.MECO.LU](http://WWW.MECO.LU)**

**Activity Report 2022 of the Mouvement Ecologique**  
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écologique**

lively - critical - motivated



The year 2022 continued to be characterized by the COVID crisis, although to a lesser extent than in 2021, primarily by the Ukraine war and also the resulting energy policy problems.

It was also characterized by the recurring statement: "We are in times of multiple crises". Biodiversity and climate crises risk being the losers. It is the role of the Mouvement Écologique to repeatedly point out that solutions for these crises are not always postponed.

The crisis situation made it increasingly obvious that the current social and economic model is de facto unsustainable. The energy crisis showed in an unfortunately very vivid way that it is devastating when the political courage to make decisions at the right time is missing. If we had reacted 20 years ago or earlier and initiated the energy transition (all the facts were on the table), the energy policy consequences of the nuclear war would probably have been much less dramatic. The climate catastrophe could also have been avoided at an early stage. This mistake of acting too late must not be made again, according to the urgent appeal of the Mouvement Écologique.

In this context, the 2022 Congress, which took place on March 19, 2022, adopted two motions with the titles:  
*"For a socially just energy transition - for a more crisis-proof global food supply"* - *"In the interest of future generations: Politics must shape the future sustainably and usher in a new era."*

## Management Board 2022-2023

The Management Board, elected at the Congress on March 19, 2022, was composed as following in 2022-2023:

Weber Blanche, President;  
Muller Jeannot, Vice-President;  
Espen Emile, Treasurer;  
Dammé Roger, Secretary

Becker Tom, Faber Théid, Kieffer Gérard, Kieffer Béatrice; Metz Cédric, Milmeister Marianne, Petit Claude, Pir Jacques, Reuter Bob, Rischette Jean, Members.

According to 2022, the Mouvement Écologique and its numerous active members were committed to sustainable development in a wide variety of ways in the various thematic areas.

As a non-governmental organization, the Mouvement Écologique thus assumed its responsibility and continued to address the core issues of an environmental and nature movement with all its commitment: Climate and energy protection, preservation of biodiversity, promotion of soft mobility and public transport, expansion of democracy and much more. In 2022, the issue of distributive justice and the social dimension increasingly became the focus of discussions.

This activity report provides impressive evidence of the wide range of activities.

2023 will be committed together with the same consistency, creativity and objectivity.

**At this point, a very warm thank you to all members of the Mouvement Écologique!**

# THE ECOFUND FOUNDATION: Your Support for future-oriented projects!

**1** 987 the Mouvement Ecologique has created the non-profit foundation Oekofonds. Since then, the foundation has been supporting a wide range of projects in the spirit of sustainable development. In 2022, the Ecofund Foundation was once again able to support many important projects with the help of numerous donors. We would like to briefly present these to you so that you can see for yourself that each of your donations is worthwhile. We would like to take this opportunity to thank all our supporters and hope that you will continue to support the foundation.



## GLOBAL SOLIDARITY: “SUPPORT FOR FOE BY THE WHOLE WORDL” AND FOR A REFORMED GLOBAL TRADE

Country organizations of the parent organization "Friends of the Earth", especially - but not only - from the countries of the South, regularly make appeals to the "financially stronger" organizations, asking for financial support. These appeals range from requests for support in legal dossiers (e.g., even when environmentalists are cited in court) to accompaniment in projects to fight climate change, against oil companies, etc. It is in the sense of worldwide solidarity to support especially those organizations in their engagement!

## A DONATION FOR « MOVE. » – THE YOUTHS IN THE MOUVEMENT ECOLOGIQUE

The youth movement of the Mouvement Ecologique has been very active since its foundation. Committed young people can work together for their future. This in the topics that are close to their hearts, because the active members of move. decide freely about the activities they want to carry out. Topics such as democracy and co-determination, sustainable development, growth, sustainable consumption, climate policy and agriculture are tackled by them in workshops, internships, concrete projects, actions, educational dossiers for schools and more.

## FOR A POWERFUL „MÉCO“

The Mouvement Ecologique is very consistently committed to sustainable development, for the present but above all for future generations. In doing so, it critically questions today's developments, creates concrete proposals for solutions, this mainly on a voluntary basis, and carries out concrete projects. In 2022, numerous initiatives were taken: From climate protection to the redesign of mobility to the commitment to increased citizen participation as well as a questioning of the compulsion to grow. These are only possible thanks to a certain financial independence of the Mouvement Ecologique from government agencies and accordingly thanks to its members and your donations.



## IN ACTION AGAINST PESTICIDES

Pesticides are devastating to biodiversity, but also to human health. Despite this, significant amounts are still being used and limited progress is being made on the Luxembourg Action Plan to reduce pesticides. In 2022, the commitment against the use of pesticides on the part of the Mouvement Ecologique would continue consistently thanks to the support of the Ecofond Foundation. Among other things, pesticide analyses of the house dust of 12 "prominent" inhabitants of Luxembourg were taken and published. This showed that all samples were contaminated, regardless of where someone lived.



It can be assumed that everyone is exposed to chronic pesticide exposure. Numerous other initiatives have also been carried out: Conferences (e.g. on the issue of pesticide exposure of the bees pollen), press releases, a European signature campaign "Save the Bees" supported, and more.

### **SCHOOL LUNCH CANTEEN REFORM**

Restopolis has improved its offer in the schools in recent years: more organic and regional food as well as vegan and vegetarian dishes are offered. However, much remains to be done. There is a legislative project to transform Restopolis into an administration. The Ecological Movement sees this as an ideal opportunity to strengthen the law's concrete provisions for food procurement. In cooperation with the "Lëtzebuerger Landjugend a Jongbaueren", several positions have been taken and discussions have taken place with the Minister of Education, Claude Meisch, and the Minister of Agriculture, Claude Hagen. Many things have already been achieved. Among other things, Restopolis is increasingly using Luxembourg organic products. The legislative project is also to be revised. The year 2023 will be particularly important in this dossier.

### **THE OEKOZENTER PAFENDALL: CLOSE TO PRACTICE IN THE ISSUES OF SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT**

The OekoZenter Pafendall is not only home to a number of non-governmental organisations and a meeting place for people involved in sustainable development. In addition, very concrete projects are carried out, e.g. on the topic of green events, ecological building. These often take place within the framework of conventions with the responsible ministries. In addition to this work within the framework of ongoing projects, the OekoZenter also regularly conducts dossiers that are of particular topicality and where the OekoZenter's professional expertise is in demand. cooperation with the Mouvement



The OekoZenter sees itself in the role of technical advisor, partly also in cooperation with the Mouvement Ecologique.

### **LEGALLY STRENGTHEN THE RIGHTS OF NATURE AND THE ENVIRONMENT AND BRING LEGAL ACTION BEFORE THE COURTS**

As important as awareness-raising campaigns, creative projects, statements, etc. are, in various dossiers it is also necessary to take legal action. For example, in the case of the Google data centre in Bissen, where the Mouvement Ecologique is doing everything it can to ensure that no fait accompli, is created of this facility on the

environment and without being able to eradicate any concerns.

But legal assistance is not only needed in the Google dossier. This is also necessary when, for example, the right of access to information is not respected, controversial nature conservation permits are granted or problematic construction projects are planned. In general, legal dossiers are gaining in importance. These are of course associated with costs, for which donations are urgently needed.





## FOR THE PRESERVATION OF OUR NATURAL HABITATS

The loss of biodiversity also continues unchecked in Luxembourg and has taken on alarming proportions. The Ecofund Foundation mainly supports projects of the Mouvement Ecologique, which provide information about the dramatic situation, but also present alternatives and concrete demands to politicians. These include projects to reform agricultural policy, activities to preserve insects, the promotion of green villages together with the regional organisations of the Mouvement Ecologique and the Oekozer Pafendall, the commitment against the use of pesticides, and much more.

## RETHINKING AND CREATING THE FUTURE!

### QUALITY OF LIFE INSTEAD OF GROWTH D'ZUKUNFT

The Corona crisis has shown us how dependent we humans are on our natural environment and how problematic today's economic policy with rampant globalisation, long supply chains etc. is. And the crisis, apart from all the problems, has shown more and more people how important togetherness and a sense of community are compared to competitiveness and that "more and more" is not worth striving for. Instead, values such as "deceleration" and "public spirit" should come into focus. The Oekofonds Foundation has supported and will continue to support mainly projects of the Mouvement Ecologique in this sense. Closely linked to this is the commitment to new models of society and alternatives to economic growth. Sustainable development, including the protection of biodiversity and the increasingly tangible: Traffic jams, urban sprawl, housing shortages ...



## FOR A STRONG CLIMATE PROTECTION

The tripartite decision to cap energy prices; dossiers such as the special taxation of company cars, financial aid to support financially weak households... all these projects were accompanied by the Mouvement Ecologique thanks to the assistance of the Oekofonds Foundation.

## FOR MORE ECOLOGICAL AND DEMOCRATIC MUNICIPALITIES

The upcoming municipal elections are scheduled for 2023. The municipalities are THE actors par excellence who can implement sustainable development very concretely on the ground and involve the citizens in shaping it. It is a tradition that the Mouvement Ecologique prepares concrete proposals for sustainable communal policies for the elections. The Oekofonds Foundation supports these initiatives.



## DEVELOPING LIVABLE URBAN AREAS

"OPEN THE SPIRIT" is the project of the Mouvement Ecologique within the framework of the project "MAKE ROOM"- VIBRANT NEIGHBOURHOODS AND VILLAGES WORTH LIVING IN!"

The project "Make Room" consists of three vivid animated clips which show the transformation of three squares in Luxembourg cities in a journey through time: Place de Stalingrad in Esch-sur-Alzette; the entrance to Hollerich (Place St.Pierre et Paul) - Luxembourg City and "Stäreplaz" in Mersch. The clips are intended to show how enriching it can be when public spaces are transformed into green places of encounter and togetherness - away from concrete and noise.

The visions in the films are not real plans, but they are meant to open the "mind" and let us dream.

"Open your mind, let you dream... for everything that could be possible. They are meant to inspire and whet our appetite so that we can set out to rethink our localities. As part of the "Make room!" campaign, in addition to the three clips, a flyer and concrete demands to national politics, municipalities and citizens who want to be part of the change were prepared and published, and presented at a press conference. The clips were viewed around 5,000 times (Facebook & Youtube). The posts on the campaign reached a total of around 26,500 people and generated almost 2,000 interactions on Facebook and Instagram.



## CONVIVIALITY AT THE „ALLES OP DE VËLO“ – CYCLING THROUGH THE MAMER VALLEY

2022, the Oekofest took place in Pafendall. Once again, hundreds of people were able to meet, exchange ideas, discuss, enjoy concerts or take part in guided tours or a reading by the well-known author Tom Hillenbrand, among other things. The organisation of such a festival costs money, so the help of the Ecofund Foundation was particularly important.

In 2022, the traditional Bicycle Day celebrated its 25th birthday. Once again, thousands of cyclists enjoyed this day and showed how much they would support the promotion of cycling in everyday life. At present, the Bicycle Day cannot be excluded from the activities of the Mouvement Ecologique. However, the costs are constantly increasing, but sponsoring is not so easy in today's times, so the Ecofund Foundation offered the necessary support.

# YOUR SUPPORT FOR HUMANS, NATURE AND ENVIRONMENT

### We sincerely thank you for each donation!

If you think it is worthwhile to support our work financially, you can do so by means of individual donation or standing order. The projects can only be carried out thanks to the support of many individuals. You can support us and our initiatives by making an individual donation. We will also be happy to send you further information on interesting projects. You also have the possibility to send a donation to the Oekofonds Foundation in case of a birth, a birthday, a wedding or a death.

For more information, please do not hesitate to contact us: Tel. 43 90 30 - 50 or [oekofonds@oeko.lu](mailto:oekofonds@oeko.lu), [www.oekofonds.lu](http://www.oekofonds.lu)

**Donations to the Oekofonds Foundation (fondation d'utilité publique) are tax-deductible (from 120,- Euro per year, cumulation with other donations possible). You will automatically receive a certificate for your tax return.**

**Our accounts:** CCPL: LU96 1111 0734 1886 0000 / BCEE: LU31 0019 1100 4403 9000 or by payconiq

The year 2022 was marked by a major change at move. Etienne Degeest decided to move to Berlin, where- He had to give up his job as the person in charge at move. Two young women followed in his footsteps: Tanja Duprez and Catherine Jacoby. With them, new topics, new projects and a whole new move group gradually emerged.

But various old projects were also continued. Above all, the topic of (sustainable) consumption was very present in 2022. very present.

But that wasn't all, of course! We had interesting guests, made new friends, met ministers and went on cool excursions. One thing 2022 was certainly not - boring. We are looking forward to 2023 and are excited about what is in store for us. Our heads are already spinning with new and exciting ideas and we can't wait to implement them. Of course, we also hope to welcome many new faces to move. who are motivated to work towards a more sustainable future.

## DISCUSSION ROUND WITH THE LUXEMBOURG YOUTH PARTIES ON THE CLIMATE AND BIODIVERSITY CRISIS

On 31 March, move. in collaboration with Youth for Climate Luxembourg, organised a round table discussion with the Luxembourg youth parties on the topic.

"Climate and Biodiversity Crisis".

The aim of this event, which took place in a pleasant atmosphere in the Carré Rotondes in Hollerich, was on the one hand to give the youth parties the opportunity to present their positions on the various topics, and on the other hand to show the positions of move. and Youth for Climate and to hold a lively debate.

Five youth parties took part in the discussion round. Among them were Lisa Kersch (Co-President Jonk Socia

listen), Fabricio Costa (Co-speaker déi jonk gréng), Martine Kemp (Vice-President Chrëschtlech-Sozial Jugend), Tania Mousel (Co-speaker déi jonk Lénk) and Michel Agostini (President Jonk Demokraten). The event was moderated by Blanche Weber.

The thematic blocks were: Education/School, Overshoot Day, Growth, Bioiversity/Agriculture, Biodiversity/Urban Development, Climate/Social.

In each thematic block, a young person from move. and YFC introduced and addressed concrete questions to the parties, so that an exciting exchange was possible.

## MOVE.SUMMERPARTY

### - MOVE. YOUR CONSUMPTION

After a two-year break due to the pandemic, the time had finally come again in 2022: the 4th edition of the great move. Fest took place on Saturday 2 July at the Pafendall Ecology Centre.

The motto was move.Your.Consumption and the theme was "sustainable consumption". There was a clothes swap and a DIY workshop for seed bombs, a discussion round on the topic of (sustainable) consumption and of course, as every year, a delicious vegan/vegetarian buffet. For the musical part, three great bands were invited and a DJ provided a fitting end to the evening.

The party started with our discussion round on "sustainable" consumption, together with Elisha Winckel, who under the name watermelonactivist raises awareness on social media about all kinds of climate and environmental issues. Fast fashion was a topic that interested the young people very much and in which they were also able to show some great alternatives. In general, individual consumption and the pressure of society were a big topic in the round. The participants told us from experience how difficult it is to discuss such topics with people who are not in the "green bubble". In the end, we agreed that individual action alone will not get us to where we want to go: a more sustainable consumption, a more sustainable world. For that, we need a more demanding and at the same time supportive policy.

Relatively punctually, the first musician started at 6 pm. Hannah H, Singer/Songwriter inspired the audience with her singing and her acoustic guitar. Afterwards, the buffet was opened and quite a few people even lined up for a second round.







Afterwards, The Tyllms, a student band from the Lycée Ermesinde, won over the audience with their rock-pop sounds. Although it was their first concert outside of school, the atmosphere was great. Next up was the relatively new band Fugranic, who created a relaxed, feel-good atmosphere with their pop/soul music surrounded by fairy lights. Finally, DJ Mathias Treinen brought the day to a close with his cool beats.

In the end, everyone agreed that the move. Fest was once again a complete success.

We are already looking forward to the 2023 edition, which will take place on 22 April at Oekosoph!

### **POW WOW SCOUTSFEST @ SCHËTTER – FOCUS ON THE SEA**

move. organised an activity at this major Scouting event, aimed at young people aged 14 to 16 ("Explorers"). The theme of the activity was to draw attention to the problem of marine pollution, to convey constructive messages and to combine them with information about Luxembourg's waters.

In addition to an interactive game around the topic of plastic, questions such as the following were discussed:

How can I contribute at home to improve the situation in the oceans and waters? Do I have to make personal decisions? What is the role of politics and how can I influence it? Numerous ideas were discussed!

### **MOVE.: NICE CONTACTS THROUGH A STAND AT THE OEKOFEST & ON STÉITSCH**

Our stand at the Ökofest (23.09) and the Festival On Stéitsch (24.09) went down quite well. We had set up a kind of lounge in our tent with a sofa, benches, plants, decorations, lights, etc., where visitors could chill with us. In addition, we offered a small workshop on the topic of "More greenery in our cities and villages". For this we had printed out three large photos of places in the city (Knuedler, Place Clairefontaine, schoolyard of the Geesseknäppchen), which people could use as a background. They were given different images (trees, water, flowers, meadows, etc.) and a few hashtags (#urbanjungle, #méi Gréngs, #greencities, etc.) to put on the photos and decorate the space as they saw fit.

Finally, they could have their

photo taken by our photo box in front of their background. The people all enjoyed this activity so much that we decided to continue offering it at our stand in the future.

## STIMULATING WORKSHOP: VISIONARIES - AFRAID OF THE CLIMATE CRISIS? LET'S HAVE A CHAT ABOUT IT!

Fears about the future due to the climate crisis - what to do? How should I deal with my feelings in the climate crisis? Does it still have any value at all for me to get involved? Why don't politics take on a greater role? And above all: what can we do?

Here at home, too, we are feeling the climate crisis more and more. And yet the world continues to turn and the impression quickly arises that not enough is being done to get out of this crisis. Especially if you are a climate activist, the regular confrontation with the climate crisis can be a risk for your mental health. In this context, our workshop entitled "Fear of the climate crisis? "Fear of the climate crisis? Let's talk about it!" took place.

The highlight of the workshop was the discussion round with Katharina van Bronswijk, who is active with Psychologists for Future in Germany, among others. We talked with her about what thoughts and experiences we associate with the climate crisis, how we talk about it with our family, friends and other people, and how we deal with our climate feelings. We made it clear from the beginning that we were in a "safe space", i.e. that our conversations would remain between us so that everyone could speak freely.

Katharina van Bronswijk kept asking us specific questions in between and gave us food for thought. For example, that everyone has to find their personal balance between activism and acceptance that a crisis cannot be solved alone and overnight. After the discussion group, she showed us some mindfulness exercises, i.e. how we can refocus our thoughts when panic sets in (for example, about the climate crisis).



At the end of this intensive workshop, we all agreed that it was good to talk openly about our own feelings and to see that we are not alone with our feelings of climate change.

### **Follow-up Session: A diverse group with multiple perspectives**

Even though we were a small group, it can still be said that the group was very diverse. There were pupils, students and also young people from other environmental organisations. It emerged from the discussion group that joint actions and the exchange with like-minded people are personally beneficial and motivate people to remain or become active. In order to continue to receive information about our actions in the future, the participants signed up for the move. Newsletter.

## UPCYCLING WORKSHOP WITH LËT'Z REFASHION

In October, an upcycling workshop was organised "Rethink Your Clothes" (a project of Caritas Luxembourg), an upcycling workshop was organised in their studio in the Upper Town. The aim was to process a number of garments, that they wanted to upgrade. We also had some clothes from the clothes swap that could be cut up. The workshop started with an introduction to the problems of our fast fashion consumption, mainly the environmental and human rights problems in the production of clothes. A horrific example was the dramatic collapse of the large garment factory in Bangladesh/Rana Plaza in 2013 and the poor payment and working conditions of the local people so that we can buy clothes at a low price.



Afterwards, we talked with Rethink Your Clothes about political demands that would be necessary for a more sustainable production and consumption of clothes.

- A legal framework for garment production abroad would be possible through a national supply chain law. Such a law would oblige companies to pay attention to ecological and social criteria in production abroad.

- The VAT on second-hand clothes is currently the same as for new clothes. This is despite the fact that the sale of as for new clothes. This, although in the sale of This is despite the fact that no "valeur ajoutée" is added to the sale of such second-hand clothes. By lowering the TVA, Second-Hand goods could also be made much more attractive in terms of price.

- The repair of used and broken clothes should also be promoted more on a social level. This could be done, for example, by offering sewing courses in schools or in the communities/regions, so that the first reflex is not to throw the clothes away.

After this introduction to the topic, the practical part could begin. We were provided with scraps of fabric and everyone could design his or her own piece of clothing as he or she wished. The supervisor Nora Schlessler, a Luxembourgish seamstress, helped us as much as she could and gave us tips. In the end, the results were exclusively beautiful, creative and individual and everyone was very satisfied.

### **CREATIVE ACTION: LUCKY SATURDAY - MASS CONSUMPTION WAS YESTERDAY**

#### **Black Friday action @ the main street in Luxembourg City**

Black Friday took place this year on 25 November. For some, this is a great opportunity to lure us with mega-savings prices so that we buy lots of new items at reduced prices. Things



that we actually don't need. For move. this day was the opportunity to launch a cool promotion! And to ask the question: Do we really need more and more consumption and growth to be happy?

On 26 November we therefore set up a very special wheel of fortune in the "Uewerstad". All participants had the chance to win something - although not the prizes one is used to winning on such wheels of fortune. The aim of the campaign was to focus on non-material prizes in order to show that we do not necessarily need unrestrained consumption in order to be happy. The passers-by who dared to spin the wheel of fortune (some were afraid that we would force a donation membership on them) were always happy about the new vegan recipe, wild plant seeds for their garden or a song of their choice. The Minister of Economic Affairs, Franz Fayot, also came by at our invitation and spun our wheel of fortune. Beforehand, in the presence of the press, we presented him with our flyer with illustrations by Lynn Theisen and our demands. For example, that the prosperity of citizens should in future be measured by the "PIB du bien-être", which also takes into account aspects such as health, ecology and genuine well-being. We also called for a national supply chain law and a much faster development towards a circular economy. Repairing, sharing or recycling can be made much easier and cheaper through targeted legislation. The Minister of Economic Affairs supported our demands and emphasised that he

had already initiated such developments at various levels, e.g. that the indicators of the "PIB du bien-être" should play a greater role in the budget. Even though fewer passers-by wanted to spin our wheel of fortune than we had expected, it was still a successful afternoon for move. For the two movers present it was a new and exciting experience.

### **VISIONARIES: "LIFESTYLE, ECONOMY & NATURE ... HOW DO WE GET IT WORKING**

Fabian Scheidler is a bestselling author and in his book "The Stuff We Are Made Of" he suggests that we need to rethink the interplay between humans and nature instead of seeing nature as a controllable resource. At the beginning of December, move. was lucky enough to welcome him to the Visionary Youth Forum. We spent a day together discussing how we can bring our lifestyles, the economy and nature back together. The discussion round allowed us to look at many different social issues.

#### **Why do we believe in infinite growth? A discussion across space and time**

In order to understand how our current capitalist system could prevail, it is important to go back in time. Together with Fabian Scheidler, we therefore took a look at the beginning of the Industrial Revolution and what influence the use of fossil fuels had.



With the help of a few examples, we analyse the extent to which the idea of growth, which has persisted ever since, has shaped our society today. For example, that the exploitation of countries in the global south was fuelled by the growth logic and the sense of superiority of the European colonial powers. In the process, we discovered how important it is, in the context of colonial history, to take the perspectives of all the people, populations and nations involved in order to be able to critically consider our privileged way of life today.

#### **Change of perspective in school - which educational models do we need?**

Education and school also play an important role here. Frontal teaching, which still dominates the Luxembourg school system, seems to be rather unsuitable for such a change of perspective. Instead, it strongly depends on the respective teaching staff whether the history lessons (or similar) can break away from a one-sided presentation. Therefore, we have considered how we can promote alternative forms of learning, e.g. debates or learning groups, critical thinking and change of perspective in school. Some students from an international school were able to share their positive experiences.

The visionary group agreed that the current school model is no longer up to date.

#### **The power of civil society**

Overall, the discussion round with Fabian Scheidler showed how complex it is to think lifestyle, economy and nature together. From democracy (especially in schools), agriculture

agriculture, the common good economy, energy and fossil subsidies to sustainable consumption. At first glance, this can seem a bit overwhelming.

However, this did not limit us in the discussion round - on the contrary. Together we have once again established how important it is for civil society to organise itself in order to bring alternative ideas to the political agenda and bring about social change. This has given move. a new energy boost to keep at it and continue to be loud..

#### **MOVE. FINAL DINNER 2022 - COOKING TOGETHER AND SPENDING A NICE EVENING**

On 21 December, we celebrated our end-of-the-year party together with Youth for Climate. As many former and long-time Movelers are back in Luxembourg around Christmas time, it was a good moment to meet and exchange in a larger group. While the "Deco" team made the room in the Oekozenner glitter and shine, the "Cooking" team conjured up a vegan "Tri-de-Pâtes" in the kitchen of the Oekozenner. The dessert buffet was also huge, many participants had baked and/or prepared something at home. We ate together, laughed and toasted with Bionade to the year 2022. A good opportunity to tank up enough energy for our actions in 2023!

#### **WE'RE FED UP!**

##### **Demo @ Berlin**

. Finally, the time had come again: The demo "We are fed up", which has attracted tens of thousands of people to the streets of Berlin every year since 2011, took place again after a two-year break due to the pandemic - and move. was there again, of course!

Under the motto "Good food for all, instead of profit for a few", around 10,000 people demonstrated in the German capital for a sustainable agricultural policy. This was against the backdrop of the energy crisis and the Russian war of aggression, which on the one hand make it increasingly difficult for more and more people to afford healthy and sustainable food. On the other hand, there are big companies that earn more and more money by speculating on rising food prices.

##### **"Food is political"!**

Together with the "We are fed up" alliance, which consists of more than 60 German animal welfare organisations, environmental and nature conservation organisations, social organisations and farmers' associations, we have therefore spoken out against the current agricultural industry and policy. It is high time for an ecological, climate- and socially just agricultural economy that puts the well-being of humans and animals at the centre and enables good and healthy nutrition for all. During the demonstration, the "6-Point Plan for Good Food for All" was presented to the Federal Minister of Agriculture, Cem Özdemir.





### What needs to change ?

In the meantime, it was the fourth time that move. had travelled to Berlin to take part in this demo. Not only in Germany does the transition towards sustainable agriculture seem much too slow and unambitious. Here in Luxembourg, too, there is still a lot of room for improvement. That is why we demand that:

- the new agricultural law makes our agriculture more sustainable;
- the Organic Action Plan and its objectives be respected;
- more organic, regional, vegan and vegetarian cooking in school canteens;
- food waste is stopped and
- reducing the number of livestock in Luxembourg.

### EXCITING VISITE OF THE KRAUTGAART

During the carnival holidays, move. visited the Krautgaart, a solidarity vegetable farm in Steinfort. We were shown the whole site and explained how they work, what they look for and what they stand for. Of course, we were also able to ask any questions we had on our hearts. Afterwards, we really got started and were able to help plant fruit trees in small groups.

We then drove to the second site of the Krautgaart in Koerich. The plant beds were not all ready to be planted, so we prepared them. We covered them with com- post and the paths around them with wood chips.



### MORE ORGANIC AND REGIONAL PRODUCTS IN THE SCHOOL CANTINES

The Restopolis 2022 project also continued to be worked on. Move. was out and about in the schoolyards of Geesseknäppchen and Limpertsberg with lots of plates to collect signatures. The signed plates were then placed in front of the Chamber or the Ministry of Education to show that the students want change in their canteens.

Our demands include:

- \* Food that is good for the environment

(much more organic, seasonal and regional!) as well as good vegan and vegetarian food!

- \* a cooperation with Luxembourg farmers;

\* Chefs should learn to cook better vegan and vegetarian food. Quorn, salad or pasta without sauce should not be every other day.

\* that there is more talk about how eating habits are related to the environment and CO2 emissions (better training of kitchen staff and professionals);

\* Students should not pay more for organic and local food. To avoid a higher price, there are many strategies: If Restopolis buys less meat and more vegetarian and vegan products, money will be saved!

In the meantime, talks with the Minister of Education, Claude Meisch, have taken place with promising results. The Restopolis 2022 project also continued to be worked on. Move. was out and about in the schoolyards of Geesseknäppchen and Limpertsberg with lots of plates to collect signatures.

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In the meantime, talks with the Minister of Education, Claude Meisch, have taken place with promising results. For this reason, the Restopolis project has been put on hold for the time being. Of course, we will follow whether these promises will actually be implemented.

### MOVE. PODCAST: FIR ZE LAUSCHTEREN

The move. podcast is going into a second round! With a new name, new people and many new ideas, we are starting a 2nd season of our podcast in 2023. After intensive brainstorming, the name "Um Comptoir" was replaced by "fënnepopzwelef".

. But we don't want to reveal more than that. Our first episode of the new season on the topic of political engagement of young people will be released in March 2023, so check our Instagram account @move.meco regularly to make sure you don't miss anything!-



# The Mouvement Ecologique: a diverse source of information!

A central concern of the Mouvement Ecologique is to report on its activities, current statements, conferences and developments in the field of sustainable development.

and provides a wealth of information on the topic of "Reuse - Repair - Share". Among other things, practical tips and directories of second-hand fashion shops, second-hand furniture dealers, etc. can be found here.

it the social social medium with the largest reach for the organisation. But the Instagram account is also becoming increasingly popular. It is now followed by more than 1,100 people.



The Mouvement Ecologique shares videos of events on the video platform Youtube. The channel's library now contains over 100 videos. In 2022, the channel recorded well over 11,000 views. A significant increase compared to the previous year.

tainable development. An essential tool for this is the members' magazine **Kéisecker info**, which was also published regularly in 2022 - a total of 25 times, readers found in the "Keisecker info" brandcurrent and informative thematic dossiers. For example, in January, the special supplement "Klimabank an Déngschtween an der Diskussioun", special pages on pesticide contamination, which to which the inhabitants of Luxembourg are exposed to in their homes. The youth group move. and the Oekozer Pafendall also report regularly on their actions and projects.

It also contains a directory of sources for repair instructions that can significantly extend the lifespan of electrical appliances. In 2023, this project page will be further expanded and updated with new information. Indispensable for the Mouvement Ecologique is the newsletter, which is normally sent out every Friday and reaches over 640 subscribers. Here, the addressees receive a summary of the latest news about the Mouvement Ecologique. The newsletter provides a summary of current events concerning the Mouvement Ecologique and the Pafendall Ecological Centre.

Another essential tool is **the website www.meco.lu** with current information as well as all the statements and projects of the past years. Most of the reports are also translated into French. Thanks to a good search function, everyone can find interesting documents on a wide range of topics.

The **social media** presence of the Mouvement Ecologique was also further expanded in 2022. The Facebook page of the Mouvement Ecologique Facebook page now has more than 6,700 subscribers, making



## NATUR ELO!

## fixit!

FLÉCKEN · LÉINEN · NOTZEN

The website also takes visitors can also access other project pages. In addition to the extremely informative page about "nature" - natur-elo.lu - and the project page "fixit", which was launched in 2022, we would like to highlight the following

**Electronic Newsletter - Subscribe!**  
 From 2021 onwards, non-members could also subscribe to this exclusive service for a 2-month trial period. If you do not yet have a newsletter subscription and would like to receive all important news electronically by e-mail, please send us an e-mail with the subject "Newsletter subscription" and your first and last name to newsletter@meco.lu.



## The Mouvement Écologique: commitment with professional competence!

Lively, critical, committed... is the slogan of the Mouvement Écologique. All activities are based on common convictions, but also a high level of expertise.

### INFLUENCE THROUGH EXPERT OPINIONS

The documents drafted by the working groups, regional and the Administrative Board technical opinions allow on the one hand on the one hand to raise awareness and on the other hand to influence decisions. It goes without saying that these are forwarded to interested actors members to interested actors as far as possible (politicians, municipalities, the professional circles concerned, the general public) to pub-

lic) in order to increase their impact. increase their impact. Often committed members members are often involved in the even if they are not directly active in a active in a group. In this way it is possible well-founded statements with a great deal of practical relevance. As the topics become more and more complex, it is a challenge to maintain this "level". In addition, the opinions often lead to meetings with the actors concerned (ministries, etc.). with the actors concerned (ministries, etc.). In any case, they are intended to make a factual contribution to opinion-forming and discussion. In 2022, the expert opinions ranged from the "Restopolis" dossier, the question of financing the social system to pesticide contamination.

### CONSTRUCTIVE WORK THROUGH PARTICIPATION IN VARIOUS COMMITTEES

At the national level, the Mouvement Écologique is represented in a number of state bodies, which are primarily intended to advise the respective ministries. The Mouvement Écologique does its best to contribute its ideas and proposals to these structures and to advocate for sustainable development. In

2022, however, it was again noted that the various bodies function differently and that their working methods and impact are in some cases questionable. and their impact must be questioned in some cases. The Mouvement Écologique is represented in the following, among others: "Luxembourg Transition", the advisory board of "myenergy", "Conseil supérieur de l'aménagement du territoire", "Observatoire de l'environnement naturel", "Conseil supérieur de la chasse", "Comité d'accompagnement en matière d'établissements classés", "Commission consultative aéroportuaire", "Groupe d'accompagnement" for the construction of the modern tramway, state working group "Mobilité douce", etc. For years, the Mouvement Écologique has been calling for the introduction of the "congé associatif". The meetings of these consultative structures often take place during working hours, which does not make it easy or even impossible for the often voluntary representatives of the Mouvement Écologique to participate. In addition to these governmental, the Mouvement Écologique is represented in the organisations "FSC Lëtzebuerg" and in the board of directors of "Etika".







The Mouvement Ecologique also actively participates in the platforms "Stop TTIP & CETA" (which, however, was somewhat on hold in 2022) and "Meng Agriculture", as well as in the "Aktioun-scomité géint Atomkraaft".

### CONTACT POINT FOR COMMITTED CITIZENS AND CONSUMERS

The Mouvement Ecologique has always acted as a contact point for questions and suggestions from citizens and interested actors. Numerous enquiries are addressed to the Mouvement Ecologique. They range from questions about laws and procedures to suggestions for specific projects. In 2022, the Mouvement Ecologique Ecologique was approached daily by citizens asking for support on a specific dossier. It is noticeable that more and more citizens are expressing the wish to become active in this or that way. They are not necessarily interested in to get involved in technical working groups. It is much more about implementing concrete ideas on the

ground. It becomes clear how important participation on the ground would be, because it is precisely there that people could make a great deal of difference in social interaction if the municipalities would projects and ideas from citizens. However, the motto "help people to help themselves" also applies to numerous requests. In view of its limited capacities, the Mouvement Ecologique cannot always "step in" and become actively involved in all dossiers. It is important that the people concerned become active themselves on the ground. The Mouvement Ecologique advises in this sense, often explains the legal situation and provides information on what initiatives can be taken. If the Mouvement Ecologique itself does not have the necessary knowledge, it does its best to refer the people concerned to the right authorities. to refer the people concerned to

the right authorities. It is a fact, however, that citizens also turn to the Méco with enquiries that should actually be answered by government agencies (e.g. whether a permit has been granted for a project or whether there is data on certain topics). In order to ensure better information, a much more systematic information of citizens would be necessary. Information for citizens on the part of the state, concrete contact points and persons in the respective ministries and administrations for inquiries, and an information law that would and administrations for enquiries, as well as an information law worthy of a modern democracy. However, we are still a long way from this kind of closeness to the citizens, which should actually be a matter of course. The Mouvement Ecologique will continue to strive in the future to fulfil its advisory and informative role.



# Lively, critical, committed - The culture of discussion and information in the Mouvement Ecologique

It is of particular importance to the Mouvement Ecologique that a constructive exchange between committed and interested people is made possible. For this to take place, new ideas can be presented, arguments exchanged, common perspectives developed, etc.

In 2022, numerous conferences and visits were again held, which met with very great interest.

Many took the opportunity to discuss with the invited speakers and experts and to talk to each other afterwards at a stalemate.

The year's various events covered a wide range of topics, ranging from honey bee pumps to the question of growth. This with the aim of providing expertise and creating new perspectives for the future - and perhaps providing answers to the big questions of the future: How do we save the climate, can biodiversity be preserved? What does the climate fear do to us?

In 2022, numerous conferences were held "live" again, but the concept of online webinars was also maintained, although the COVID measures have

been lifted in the meantime. Numerous interested parties took advantage of the offer and attended the conferences from home. During the COVID pandemic the Mouvement Ecologique held its first online conferences and gained a lot of experience with the technology. In the meantime, this form of exchange has also become part of the regular programme.

Many of the events have been recorded on video and are available on the video platform Youtube on the channel of the Mouvement Ecologique at [www.youtube.com/mouveco](http://www.youtube.com/mouveco).

## REVIEW: EVENTS 2022

- 23.02.2022 – Repairing instead of throwing away: How can government and communities encourage appliance repair? Repairing instead of throwing away: How can government and communities encourage appliance repair? Online event with Christine Ax from the association Runder Tisch Reparatur and Marie Hervier-Collas from the „Agence de la transition écologique“ (ADEME).
- -28.02.2022 - Phasing out fossil fuels: How do we ensure today secure the heat supply for our neighborhoods of tomorrow? Online event with Dr. Jan Steinbach, Managing Director of the Institute for Resource Efficiency and Energy Strategies (IREES); Thierry Lagoda, Mayor of the Municipality of Beckerich; Marc Lauwers, Director of Sudcal; Robert Colbach, Geologist at the Ministry of Mobility and Public Works; Matthias Meier, Managing Director of Wärmeverband Riehen; Fenn Faber of myenergy, Florian Noll of the Institute for Future Energy and Material Flow Systems (IZES) and Claude Turmes, Minister of Energy and Spatial Planning.
- 02.03.2022 – In times of climate change and biodiversity loss: How can green roofs and facades succeed? Online event with Dr. Gunter Mann, President of the German Green Building Association.
- 05.03.2022 – STOP THE WAR - Invitation to a National Demonstration together with other NGO's
- 20.03.2022 – Forest and the Wild - Forests as allies in the fight against climate change: the role of the hunter. Hike with biologist Roger Schauls and forester Marc Parries.
- 31.03.2022 - Exciting roundtable discussion with youth parties on the climate and biodiversity crisis organized by move. and Youth for Climate Luxembourg
- 19.04.2022 – The Ukraine War and the Energy Transition ... Conference with the speaker: Dr. Felix Matthes, research coordinator for energy and climate policy at the Berlin office of the Öko-Institut, followed by a roundtable discussion with Claude Turmes, Minister of Energy, and René Winkin, Managing Director of FEDIL, among others.
- 04.05.2022 - Dormice, garden dormice and dormice - The awakening of the dormice! Who they are, where they occur and how and why we should protect them. Online conference with wildlife biologist Johannes Lang. Together with partners ABIOL, 'natur musée', Frënn vum 'natur musée' and the Nature Research Society of Luxembourg (SNL).
- 14.05.2022 – Visit of the climate tree trail in Ettelbrück, what kind of trees for our cities and villages in times of climate change? Presenter: Eike Jablonski, tree expert and since 2017 president of the German Dendrological Society. Since 1995 he is a teacher at the LTA in Ettelbrück and has created a collection -Arboretum- of more than 1000 different species of trees and shrubs on the grounds of the school of agriculture.



**EINLADUNG**

Im Rahmen der „Aktoum Schléifer“, laden Mouvement Ecologique und Oekozenner Pafendall, zusammen mit Ihren Partnern ABIOL, 'natur musée', Frém'm vum 'natur musée' und SNL, Sie herzlich ein zur **Online-Konferenz** mit dem **Wildbiologen Johannes LANG** (Universität Gießen / Institut für Tierökologie und Naturbildung)

**Siebenschläfer, Gartenschläfer und Haselmaus**

**Das Erwachen der Schlafmäuse!**  
Wer sie sind, wo sie vorkommen und wie und warum wir sie schützen sollten.

**Mittwoch, den 4. Mai 2022 von 19.30 - 21.00 Uhr**  
Diese Konferenz richtet sich an ein interessiertes Publikum. Vorkenntnisse sind nicht erforderlich.



Mit der finanziellen Unterstützung des  

**EINLADUNG**

Mouvement Ecologique und Oekozenner Pafendall laden Sie herzlich ein zu einer **Online-Fragerunde mit Dr. Gunter Mann**, Präsident des Bundesverbandes GebäudeGrün e.V. (BuGG)

**In Zeiten von Klimawandel und Biodiversitätsverlust:**  
**Wie kann Dach- und Fassadenbegrünung gelingen?**

**Mittwoch, den 2. März 2022 von 17.00 - 18.30 Uhr**



Mit der finanziellen Unterstützung des Ministeriums für Umwelt, Klima und nachhaltige Entwicklung 

**EINLADUNG**

Mouvement Ecologique und Lëtzebuurger Landjugend a Jongbaueren laden herzlich zu einer Konferenz / Podiumsdiskussion zum folgenden Thema ein:

**Biologische und regionale Produkte ... auch in den Schulkantinen?**  
**Eine Illusion oder eine Realität in der nahen Zukunft?**

**Samstag, den 2. Juli 2022 um 14.00 Uhr**  
- Foire Agricole Ettelbrück



- 17.05.2022 – What are the requirements and possibilities for heat pumps in existing residential buildings? Online event with civil engineer Dr. Marek Miara and Pascal Worré, Chargé de la Direction de l'efficacité énergétique at the Ministry of Energy and Spatial Development.
- 30.05.2022 – Concrete measures for the conservation of the hedge frog. Hike with biologist Frank Sowa (Nature Conservation Syndicate, SICONA)
- 01.06.2022 - How can classic recycling centers become resource centers? Visit of the SIVEC in Schifflingen with the responsible Patrick Falkenstein and the BENU Village Esch with the founder and manager Georges Kieffer. Afterwards exchange with representatives of the environmental administration.
- 04.06.2022 – Guided walk through Rumelingen - "Greening our villages - for a better quality of life" with biologist Roger Schauls.
- 14.06.2022 – Discovering the diversity of species-rich grasslands. Hike with landscape ecologist Claire Wolff (Nature Conservancy Syndicate, SICONA).
- 12.06.2022 – Hike through the very species-rich forests around Keispelt/Meispelt and visit the Haff a Sewen. Guided tour with biologist Roger Schauls.
- 29.06.2022 – Pesticide residues in bee pollen in Luxembourg: what is the state of play? What do these values say about the general exposure? Information session with Dr Marco Beyer from the Luxembourg Institute of Science and Technology (LIST), Jacques Engel (Chargé d'études at ASTA) and Marc Weyland (Director of ASTA) and Roger Dammé from Mouvement Ecologique.
- 30.06.2022 - 09.07.2022 The energy weeks : Six guided tours on the energy renovation of old buildings, low and passive houses, renewable energies and ecological construction.
- 02.07.2022 – move. YOUR.CONSUMPTION Summerparty 2022
- 02.07.2022 – Organic and regional products ... also in school canteens? An illusion or a reality in the near future, Conference / Forum organized together with the "Lëtzebuurger Landjugend a Jongbaueren asbl, at the Foire Agricole with the project leaders of "Manger demain" from the province of Luxembourg and Wallonia, as well as with Gerber van Vliet (Ministry of Agriculture), Gilles Altmann, SICONA "Natur genéissen", Luc Emering (LLJ) and J. Pir (Méco).
- 03.07.2022 – Honeybees in the forest - The woodpecker as carpenter for bees and other species: guided tour with beekeeper Roger Dammé and nature observer Liliane Burton.
- 17.07.2022 – Cycling for everyone in the valley of the Mamer, organized by the Mouvement Ecologique and its regional "Miersch an Ëmgéigend", in collaboration with the municipalities of Mamer, Kopstal and Mersch and ProVelo.lu.

- 23.09.2022 – Oekofest with numerous concerts and performances and with speeches by Mouvement Ecologique president Blanche Weber and energy and territorial planning minister Claude Turmes.
- 27.09.2022 – Breaking the circle of poisoning - Conference with Roger Dammé of the Mouvement Ecologique; Pascal Gbenou, founder of SAIN, a school farm for sustainable agriculture in Bénin and Morgan Ody, coordinator of the organization La Via Campesina, organized in collaboration with SOS-Faim.
- 29.09.2022 – Actors at the edge of the field - Multivision lecture by Roland Günter. Organized together with the Nature Research Society of Luxembourg (SNL) and numerous other partner organizations.
- 03.10.2022 - Understanding what climate disaster news affects us - conference with psychologist and author Katharina van Bronswijk.
- 19.10.2022 – Energy refurbishment in the energy crisis - How old buildings become fit for the future when properly insulated. Online event with expert Dr. Dipl.-Ing. Sebastian Latz and Nina Weicherding, renewable energy consultant at Klima-Agence.
- 07.11.2022 & 14.11.2022 & 21.11.2022 – Curious about vegetarian or vegan cooking. Cooking class for meatless dishes.
- 04.11.2022 – Redesigning the school day: Instead of exclusive subject thinking - learning of-  
fice, workshop and project time. Excursion to Aachen to the 4th Aachen Comprehensive School.
- 29.11.2022 – Our forest under stress! Increasing heat summers and water shortages, but also the extremely high density of game, are endangering our forest ecosystems. Conference with biologist Roger Schauls.
- 30.11.2022 – Why and how we need to rethink nature and society! Conference with the journalist Fabian Scheidler.
- 05.12.2022 & 06.12.2022 & 14.12.2022 & 15.12.2022: 2023 Municipal elections: Creation of concrete suggestions of the Mouvement Ecologique, discussion forums with the members of the Mouvement Ecologique and experts.





## A variety of practical projects!

The Mouvement Ecologique stands for well-founded professional opinions. Numerous practical projects are also in focus, such as the following:

### ENERGY WEEKS: ENVIRONMENTALLY FRIENDLY AND ENERGY-EFFICIENT BUILDING AND RENOVATION IN PRACTICE

In 2022, the Pafendall Ecological Centre and the Mouvement Ecologique had again organised the popular "Energy Weeks". What was new, however, was that these were moved from the rather cold and wet season to the summer. From 30 June to 9 July 2022, people interested in building could see for themselves how ecological building materials are used in practice in the buildings that have already been completed or are still under construction.

The following topics were of particular interest: the use of ecological building materials both in the renovation of old buildings and in new construction, building biology with low-pollutant building materials and energy-efficient constructions in the sense of circular construction. The Energy Weeks were traditionally organised under the auspices of the Ministry of Housing, the Ministry of Energy and Spatial Development and the Ministry of the Environment.

### EVERYONE ON BIKES 2022

After a break due to Corona, the "Alles op de Vëlo am Mamerdall" finally took place again in 2022. Thousands of cyclists from all over the country followed the call of the Mouvement Ecologique and ProVelo and enjoyed a day without car traffic in the beautiful Mamer Valley. Many families in particular also benefited from the attractiveness of the route and cycled at their own pace.

The event also celebrated its 25th birthday and it became clear that many would like to see routes in the country closed to cars more often. But above all, a message goes out from "Alles op de Velo": "The conditions for cycling should be made far more attractive in everyday life!". This was also evidenced by messages from cyclists in the "photo box", which was offered especially for the 25th anniversary in Mersch.

The Mouvement Ecologique continues to campaign for the construction of a

cycle route between Mersch and Mamer not to take another 25 years.



### VEGGIETABLE - EVERY FRIDAY NEW VEGETARIAN AND VEGAN RECIPES

Since its foundation, the healthy, and above all also vegan / vegetarian vegetarian diet and the use of products from organic farming, has been an important theme of the Mouvement Ecologique. Through the preparation of vegetarian and vegan dishes, preferably with seasonal and regional organic products, an ecological approach is taken. organic products, an ecological lifestyle is combined with the enjoyment of food. Since 2013, cookbook author Lydie Philippy has been publishing her recipes on [www.veggietable.lu](http://www.veggietable.lu) (including author of the two cookbooks "Natierlech genéissen", published by the by the Mouvement Ecologique). She always emphasises that cooking is a creative activity







that everyone should enjoy. Every Friday it is therefore worth discovering a new recipe on VeggieTable and trying it out at home. After a break due to COVID cooking classes took place again.

### EXPERIENCE NATURE: HIKES WITH THE MOUVEMENT ECOLOGIQUE

In 2022, after a break corona-induced break, hikes could finally be organised again. One of these hikes led through the species-rich forests around Keispelt and Meispelt.

Keispelt and Meispelt. Afterwards, the participants visited the "Haffa Sewen" together with the biologist Roger Schauls. As part of the Nature Day 2022 on 4 June, the Mouvement Ecologique, together with the environmental commission of the town of Rummelingen, organised a hike on the topic of "Gréngs an eise Stied - fir eng besser Liewensqualitéit", which Roger Schauls also attended.



### FIXIT! REPAIR.REUSE. SHARE.

For World Repair Day on 15 October the Mouvement Ecologique has launched the campaign "fixit! Repair. Reuse. Share." was launched. The campaign regularly offers concrete tips on how to repair and lend things yourself, as well as interesting background information on the topic of "Repair, Reuse, Share" on Facebook and the website [www.meco.lu](http://www.meco.lu).

In addition to addresses of second-hand shops, visitors can also find information on where to find repair instructions for electronic devices and many other tips on the topics of repairing, borrowing and longer use.

### WEBINAR SERIE "MÉI GRÉNGS AN EISE STIED AN DIERFER"

In 2022, the webinar series "Méi Gréngs an eisen Stied an Dierfer", launched by Oekozer Pafendall and Mouvement Ecologique in 2021, was continued. The webinar series takes place within the framework of the "Nature elo!" campaign and is supported by the Ministry of Environment, Climate and Sustainable Development and other ministries. The aim of the seminar series is to explain the importance of green spaces in urban areas and to offer concrete recommendations for action for municipalities, planners, politicians and interested citizens in order to promote

the preservation and creation of green structures in urban areas.

### OEKOTOPTEN...

The Oekozer Pafendall leads the Oekotopten.lu project in cooperation with the Mouvement Ecologique. The aim of the project is to promote energy-saving appliances and techniques.

On the website, consumers can call up and compare electrical appliances and vehicles, smartphones, heating systems and other products according to criteria such as energy efficiency, resource consumption and reparability.

The project is supported by the Ministry of the Environment and the Topten International Group network as well as by the EU Commission within the framework of the EU project HACKS.

Oekotopten is constantly developing, so that in addition to the recommendations of energy-saving products, the focus is increasingly on reparability, etc.





## „GIVE ME ONE MORE CHANCE“

... is the title of a joint project between the musician and activist Serge Tonnar and the Mouvement Ecologique. The aim is to link art and social commitment.

In this context, Serge Tonnar has written an extremely inspiring song "Gëff mer nach eng Chance".

In it, he deals with the overexploitation of the environment and the necessary rethinking in society.

The accompanying music video was produced by the collective foqus and symbolises the struggle between man and nature.

The joint project is intended to encourage people to get involved and bring about change on a social and political level.

Because the goal of Serge Tonnar and the Mouvement Ecologique is to stand up for the preservation of nature and the environment and to defend common values. This is meaningful and gives hope.

Videos with committed people will follow. The clips can be viewed at [www.meco.lu](http://www.meco.lu).



**The action group:** The action group of the Mouvement Ecologique was also active again in 2022, especially around the "Overshootday" .... Have a look at the report in the chapter "Economy".

## STOP THE WAR!

Only a few days after the start of the Russian invasion of Ukraine, around 4,500 people took to the streets in Luxembourg to demand in no uncertain terms an immediate halt to hostilities on 5 March 2022. The demonstration was organised by 51 Luxembourgish organisations, parties and trade unions. Among them was the Mouvement Ecologique, which played a decisive role in the organisation.

The demonstrators condemned the strikes against international law and against Ukraine's right to self-determination. They demanded an immediate cessation of hostilities and the withdrawal of all Russian troops from Ukraine. The demonstration took place at the same time as demonstrations in numerous other cities around the world. For example, in Paris and London.



## **THE OEKOSOPH: THE MEETING PLACE WITH ORGANIC, VEGAN AND VEGETARIAN FOOD!**

The Oekosoph, led by Lou Steichen, has developed into a regular meeting place. There are not many restaurants in Luxembourg that offer such delicious organic dishes as well as dishes with regional vegetables. Dishes with regional vegetables and offer vegetarian and vegan dishes every day.

The success is certainly also due to the Lou Steichen's "character". But also due to the dedicated team of volunteers who ensure the service at Oekosoph on Wednesday evenings! Come and visit us!



## **ELECTION YEAR 2023: DEVELOPING IDEAS TOGETHER**

In 2023, both the national and the municipal elections are coming up. Preparations for this started at the end of 2022. First and foremost, initial texts were drafted and several member forums were held. The aim: members of the Mouvement Ecologique should be able to participate in the drafting of the proposals. This was a complete success. Well over 100 people took part in the process. In 2023, the "Roadmaps" of the Mouvement Ecologique were published.



## **QUIZZES EVENINGS: THE EXTRA EVENINGS OF THE YEAR**

Those who know them always look forward to them: the quirky quiz evenings at Oekosoph, which have become a tradition and are regularly fully booked. The focus is on enjoying being together and "laughing"! The success speaks for itself.





# Oekofest 2022: Bringing people together, exchanging ideas, celebrating together

On 23 September, the Mouvement Ecologique and the Oekozer Pfafendall organised the Oekofest in good weather. Blanche Weber, President of the Mouvement Ecologique, and Claude Turmes, Minister for Energy and Regional Planning, gave speeches at the opening of the festival, which was attended by many interested guests. The Oekofest is above all an opportunity to meet after the summer and school holidays, to exchange ideas and to discuss current issues.

Blanche Weber's speech was under the motto "Setting a clear course and implementing decisions, especially in times of crisis". Claude Turmes, for his part, focused on the war in Ukraine and its impact on Luxembourg. Of course, the focus was also on the Tripartite Agreement and the related social issues.

The mood was set by a wide range of musicians: From inside the region. The Wojda Wolter Sales Trio, d'Marly Marques and her band, the band Alfalfa, The Tame and The Wild and David Ascani & Band. The musical finale was provided by Pascal Karenbo et les Garagistes. Also in the programme was a reading by the well-known crime writer Tom Hillenbrand whose latest novel "Goldenes Gift" is set in Pfaffenthal. Pit Vinandy provided entertainment for children with his puppet theatre. The guided tours exploring the aqua tunnel and the "wild nightlife in Luxembourg" were also well attended.

A spontaneous punk concert took place at noon at the information stand of move. - the youth organisation of the Mouvement Ecologique. Their stand dealt with the topic "living places for people" and offered the visitors the opportunity to create their own place. visitors the opportunity to design their own place in a people-friendly way.

From three o'clock in the afternoon until late into the night, the guests took advantage of the good weather to talk in a good atmosphere over a glass - also, but not only, about the challenges the country and the planet are facing now.



# Engagement at EU level and in European networks increases!

The Mouvement Ecologique is a member of several global or European alliances. This membership is of paramount importance, as it is not possible for a national organisation like the Mouvement Ecologique to regularly lead international and / or EU-level dossiers. The information and preparatory work of partner organisations is therefore of eminent importance for the Mouvement Ecologique to be able to take action. Moreover, these partnerships allow joint actions to be carried out. A single organisation can achieve EU level, but together we are stronger. Accordingly, the commitment of the Mouvement Ecologique is steadily increasing, especially at the EU level, and it is also actively involved in worldwide appeals by partner organisations.

## WORLDWIDE SOLIDARITY

In important European dossiers, such as climate protection, free trade agreements, the role of multinationals, the planned modernisation of the Energy Charter Treaty, the reform of the Common Agricultural Policy, the elaboration of the EU budget - the "green deal", the issue of pesticides, etc. the EU budget - the "green deal", the issue of pesticides, etc. etc., the Mouvement Ecologique was active - above all in the joint network at EU level. This was mainly at the level of "Friends of the Earth", whose Luxembourg section is the Mouvement Ecologique. The Mouvement Ecologique is also a member of the *Bureau Européen de l'Environnement* (BEE), which is also involved in projects. Time and again, we have supported statements and sent letters from our European partner organisations on sustainable development issues to the responsible ministers, sent statements to the EU parliamentarians or supported European petitions. This broad network of "Friends of the Earth", Europe-wide and internationally, but also of the "Bureau Européen de l'Environnement" is encouraging. They

show that throughout Europe people are committed to the same are committed. As a member of *CAN Europe*, another pan-European network of organisations working on climate change, the Mouvement Ecologique also regularly attends its general meetings, keeps abreast of ongoing developments at the EU level, writes to policy makers, participates in workshops and supports pan-European projects. The Mouvement Ecologique is also a member of the PAN (Pesticides Action Network), in order to work more unitedly against the use of pesticides.

The Mouvement Ecologique also joined the "Right to Repair Network", a European network (which campaigns for a right to repair), as well as the German alliance "Runder Tisch Reparatur"!

## ENGAGEMENT AGAINST THE CURRENT FORM OF FREE TRADE AGREEMENT CONTINUES

In 2022, free trade agreements were somewhat less on the political agenda. However, this does not change the

continued fundamental opposition to these agreements. A number of activities will therefore certainly take place in 2023. This is especially true with regard to the so-called Mercosur Agreement, the EU's free trade agreement with the Latin American states of Argentina, Brazil, Paraguay and Uruguay, which is once again gaining in topicality.

## INFORM ABOUT THE WORLD-WIDE ENGAGEMENT

For the past three years, regular reports from FoE member organisations "Kéisecker info" and on the website of the Mouvement Ecologique. Ecologique website. The aim of these publications is on the one hand to focus on networking and solidarity with the partner organisations. partner organisations. On the other hand, they are also intended to illustrate the influence of our consumer behaviour and economic system. influence our consumer behaviour and economic system have worldwide. Last year, the Russian war of invasion was also a topic here. Thus Russian representatives of Friends of the Earth called for the the outbreak of the war, the Russian representatives of Friends of the Earth called for the protection of civilians and nature and for negotiations to be started.

At the same time, this very section At the same time, this section of Friends of the Earth never tired of reminding Russia of its obligations in the field of sustainability and climate protection. The Russian Social-Ecological Union (Friends of the Earth Russia) filed a complaint





against the Russian government and demanded that it become more involved in the fight against climate catastrophe and reduce greenhouse gas emissions. Russia is far from reaching the targets set by the Paris Climate Agreement.

### **PARTICIPATION IN A EUROPEAN PETITION**

The Mouvement Ecologique also regularly supports petitions launched at EU level. In 2022, for example, the "European Bee Initiative - Save the Farmers" was launched, calling for a ban on pesticides and for greater protection of biodiversity in the agricultural landscape. On 10 October 2022, the EU Commission gave the green light and declared the European Citizens' Initiative (ECI) valid. In Luxembourg, 5,293 people supported the citizens' initiative with their signatures.

### **MORE TRANSPARENCY IN THE USE OF PESTICIDES**

Since September 2021, the Mouvement Ecologique has been a member of the European branch of the Pesticide Action Network (PAN Europe). The exchange with PAN Europe has also strengthened the commitment of the Mouvement Ecologique to pesticide issues at European level. In 2022, Mouvement Ecologique - together with other actors - appealed twice to national political representatives to advocate for strong pesticide regulations at the EU level. In November 2022, Mouvement Ecologique, SOS Faim, natur&ëmwelt asbl, Greenpeace Lëtzebuerg and the Pesticide Action Network wrote a letter to the Minister for Cooperation and Humanitarian Aid, Franz Faye. and Humanitarian Aid, Franz Fayot, to urge him to oppose the partnership between the Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations (FAO) and the Association of Pesticide Producers (Croplife).

### **STOP DEFORESTATION FOR OUR CONSUMPTION**

In 2022, the Mouvement Ecologique, as part of the international coalition of over 100 organisations "Together-



4Forests", campaigned for a strong EU law on the sale of products linked to deforestation. The Mouvement Ecologique, in addition to its public relations work, also directly addressed the Luxembourg negotiators - Minister Claude Haagen, Minister Joëlle Welfring and Christophe Hansen, Member of the European Parliament and rapporteur on this dossier - and appealed to them to support an ambitious law. The commitment of more than 100 NGOs was successful! After two years of negotiations, the Member States and the Parliament adopted the "deforestation law" on 6 December. A clear success of the non-governmental organisations, which shows, Commitment pays off!



### **THE FOUNDATION OEKO-FONDS RESPONDS TO APPEALS FOR DONATIONS**

For the past two years, the Ecofund Foundation has repeatedly supported targeted projects brought to us by member organisations of Friends of the Earth.

### **PLAINTEN OP EU-NIVEAU**

Mouvement Ecologique and natur&ëmwelt felt compelled in 2021 to take action at European level against the Luxembourg government at the European level. This was because the proven unchecked loss of European protected species and habitats species and habitats is a violation of European Community law {Directive 92/43/EEC}, but the Luxembourg government did not react nearly enough. Upon request, the European Commission informed in October 2022 that in a first exchange with the Luxembourg authorities, an infringement was not excluded and that the Commission would continue to exchange information with the authorities on this matter. It is therefore possible that the EU Commission will refer the case to the European Court of Justice.

# Strengthen democracy and civil rights!

Building a sustainable, resilient society of tomorrow requires more than ever an open exchange, the confrontation of factual arguments as well as well-developed civil rights and contemporary political education. Luxembourg is unfortunately far from these goals, which makes the commitment of civil society and in particular of the Mouvement Ecologique all the more important. This is why the question of "civil:inner society" runs like a red thread through the work of the Mouvement Ecologique. Some specific dossiers should be highlighted.

## STILL NO FREE ACCESS TO INFORMATION IN LUXEMBOURG!

As a reminder, in 2018 Luxembourg received a new law on the "transparent state". At the time, the Mouvement Ecologique described the law rather as an "information prevention law". Access to information was indeed very poorly regulated: the provisions are far too vague, there are many special rules, etc. When the law was passed in 2018, the government promised an evaluation of its implementation after two years. However, this was not the case. In various letters and statements, the Mouvement Ecologique repeatedly advocated for the long overdue reform of the law. This was also the case in an open letter to the Minister of State, under whose responsibility the law is to be

revised, with the motto: "Law iwwert de fräien Zougang zu Informatiounen .... Et geet net virun! - Minister of State does not want to do his homework...". This kind of policy-making is not exactly confidence-building. It is incomprehensible why this government - which started out with the claim to stand up for more transparency - virtually fails to do anything to reform the completely unsatisfactory Prevention of Information Act. Why it remains inactive despite Why it remains inactive, despite promises to the contrary, is incomprehensible.

## HOW DO YOU ADDRESS THE NECESSARY TRANSITION FROM SOCIETY?

...this is also one of the guiding themes of the Mouvement Ecologique in 2022. This is not without reason: the

COVID-19 crisis and the Ukraine war reinforce all those arguments about the importance of a transition of our social and economic model that have already been put forward for years in the climate and biodiversity sector (promotion of regional markets, creation of resilient systems...). However, we can only succeed in addressing these future challenges if they also meet with social acceptance. How can this acceptance be achieved? What is the role of politics, what is the role of civil society? What is the role of each individual? All these questions were addressed in conferences, statements and discussions.





## **BROAD AWARENESS RAISING AND CITIZEN PARTICIPATION: A "MUST" FOR ALMOST ALL DOSSIERS!**

A broad information policy, transparent political procedures and the involvement of citizens in decision-making processes are indispensable for sustainable development. For many years, the Mouvement Ecologique has been promoting good and extensive participation processes that are not limited to information evenings. This is done in the context of municipal statements, in the reorganisation of public transport, etc.



## **CHAMBER OF DEPUTIES - NO MORE ACCESS FOR NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANISATIONS?**

For decades, it was a matter of course that the commissions of the Chamber of Deputies, when dealing with important dossiers, received non-governmental organisations that had adopted an opinion on a dossier (especially laws) under discussion. Under the current majority parties, however, there has been a turnaround. Organisations, however legitimate their interest, are no longer heard. For example, the Mouvement Ecologique's request to the Environment Commission to present its detailed opinion on the Nature Conservation Act was rejected. This does not do justice to a Chamber of Deputies that wants to deal with the different points of view and pursues a democratic claim, according to the opinion of the Mouvement Ecologique.

## **"EMOTIONS ARE NOT A MENTAL ILLNESS"**

2022 had also invited the Mouvement Ecologique to a conference with the psychologist Katharina van Bronswijk. The speaker - German spokesperson of the "Psychologists and Psychotherapists for Future" - spoke in front of a well-filled hall about societal and individual obstacles that prevent stronger action against the climate crisis, about stressful emotions and how the transition can succeed.

Why are we as a society apparently (still) too inactive and watch as we race towards climate catastrophe? Katharina van Bronswijk has not one, but seven answers to this question, which she calls "the dragons of inaction" (after Robert Gifford). The lecture was then also quite stimulating and triggered many a discussion.

As always, the conference can be viewed on the youtube channel of the Mouvement Ecologique and at [www.meco.lu](http://www.meco.lu).





## Education: A Year of Transition from School and Education

### Stakeholders!

The focus of the activities of the Mouvement Ecologique was on the absolutely necessary transformation of formal education. There is no doubt that the Mouvement Ecologique made an important contribution to making this more of an issue for a whole range of educational actors. Education for sustainable development has to be a priority in view of the great social and ecological challenges we are facing as a society, education for sustainable development must finally be integrated into everyday school life and become a reference for educational policy decisions.

#### "SHAPING TOMORROW'S SCHOOL TOGETHER TODAY" - INSIGHTS AND FIELDS OF ACTION FROM THE EDUCATION FORUM WITH MARGRET RASFELD

In 2021, the Mouvement Ecologique, under the auspices of the Ministry of Education and with the support of the Oeuvre Grande-Duchesse Charlotte and the Scripts, among others, organised an educational forum on the theme of "Designing tomorrow's school today" with Margret Rasfeld. More than 160 people from over 20 lycées - teachers, pupils, inside... - took part. This event was a complete success, not only because of the presence of the numerous participants and the exchange during the event. It also triggered a very positive development. For example, the report on the event,

which was published in the form of a 16-page brochure and contained key conclusions, already met with a positive response. It also contains the pedagogical structure of the event, an interview with Margret Rasfeld, possibilities for implementation in Luxembourg as well as contacts to the guests and initiatives from Germany. Most importantly, however: in 2022, numerous schools set out to implement the concepts presented at the Forum, which is particularly remarkable. It is also extremely positive to note that the Forum promoted constructive exchange with public education stakeholders. This is certainly also because many of the findings and fields of action of the Education Forum published by the Mouvement Ecologique at the begin-

ning of the year coincide with the analyses of public actors, especially those in school development.

#### FOLLOW-UP MEETING WITH PARTICIPANTS OF THE EDUCATION FORUM

Already during the planning of the big educational event, it was important to the Mouvement Ecologique to organise a follow-up meeting in order to give the participants the opportunity to exchange their experiences. More than 20 people from different schools as well as school developers from IFEN and staff from Script took part. It should be emphasised that especially the FREE DAY left an impression. At the "FREE DAY", pupils spend at least four hours a week: In the "FREE DAY", students spend at least four hours a week dealing with self-selected questions about the fu-



ture, develop innovative and concrete solutions and implement them directly in the neighbourhood. The "Lycée Guillaume Kroll" has already introduced it for the school year 2022-2023 (on a 7ème) in a 7th grade, other schools are working on the introduction for the school year 2023-2024. IFEN also accompanies schools in the introduction of FREI DAY or similar concepts. However, this meeting then also laid an important foundation for the elaboration of the national electoral demands of the Mouvement Ecologique. Topics such as a reform of the graduation law, the reform of the curricula of secondary schools and the importance of cross-curricular issues came up for discussion here.

### **FINDINGS AND FIELDS OF ACTION FROM THE FORUM: MEETING WITH THE MANAGEMENT OF SCRIPT**

In a meeting with the director Luc Weis and some of the SCRIPTS staff, the implementation possibilities of some of the central findings and fields of action of the Education Forum were discussed with Margret Rasfeld for almost two hours. After the central cornerstones for the transformation, such as a culture of democracy, a change in attitudes, transparency, interdisciplinary subjects, new evaluation moments and methods as well as instruments such as the "FREE DAY" on the part of the Mouvement Ecologique, were briefly presented, the director stated that many points of the report overlap with the analyses of the script. For example, if the SCRIPT were given the political mandate to break down the subject boundaries, it would take up this task. The SCRIPT would also be willing to think about a different evaluation. However, one must that for many



people, for example, the current grading system in secondary school is an important is an important orientation. It is very positive that SCRIPT has offered its support for an event planned by the Mouvement Ecologique for 2023 on the project-oriented learning format "FREI DAY". A documentary about the first class in the "Lycée Guillaume Kroll" that introduced the "FREI DAY" was also offered. In addition, a FREI DAY stand at the Education for Sustainable Development Fair was considered useful. As the current legislative framework allows "FREI DAY" at schools, the script sees no reason at this point to work on to work on introducing it nationwide. As it was impossible to cover all the topics of the report in one meeting, it

was decided to focus on some of them. the report in one meeting, it was decided to central aspects. All in all, it was a trusting and eye-level conversation at eye level about the challenges facing the school, even though the Mouvement Ecologique would like to see would like to see some fields of action addressed more proactively and consistently by all actors.





## TECHNICAL EXCURSION TO THE 4TH AACHEN COMPREHENSIVE SCHOOL - SYSTEM INSTEAD OF PUZZLE

Last year, on the occasion of the aforementioned large education forum, the representatives of the 4th Aachen Comprehensive School, among others, presented their forward-looking school project in Luxembourg. One year later, a delegation of delegation of 12 people from different areas of the Luxembourg education system had the opportunity to visit the school together with some of the pupils and the didactic head of the comprehensive school, Martin Spätling. Martin Spätling, to experience everyday Aachen to immerse themselves in everyday school life. The excursion was organised by the Mouvement Ecologique. A formati-

ve experience with many insights. The Aachen school has left the exclusive subject thinking behind as far as possible and is characterised by formats such as **learning offices, workshops or project time** with a focus on "Education for Sustainable Development". In concrete terms, the Aachen:iners deal every day with the question of how the competences that they see as central central competences in the students' everyday education, e.g. understanding of interrelationships, networked thinking, forward-looking planning and sustainable action, can be promoted. The aim is to create resilient citizens who are aware of their self-efficacy, who learn to deal with new societal challenges and who are ready to tackle them.

Many of the insights gained from this excursion were subsequently incorporated into the national election demands of the Mouvement Ecologique, such as the daily common start, learning in workshops or co-determination at all levels ...





# Rethinking Luxembourg: developing our coexistence and the economic model!

Both the fight against climate catastrophe and the loss of biodiversity can only succeed, if fundamental reforms are made to the current social and economic model. The Mouvement Ecologique has been addressing this fact for years, even decades. This is linked to the question of how we want to live tomorrow and how "well-being" should be defined. In Luxembourg, the question of social priorities has indeed arrived in the public and political discourse. Unfortunately, however, there is no real exchange on the subject, and no conclusions have been drawn or instruments for change identified. It is therefore important that the issue remains a top priority for the Mouvement Ecologique. Very concrete dossiers are also being worked on: Such as the topic of "repair-reuse-share", the relocation of businesses, the demand for a sustainability check, etc.

## WUESSTEMSZWANG A FRO STELLEN - SOZIALSYSTEM MEI ONOFHÄNGEG VUM WUESSTEM GESTALTEN

The growth question shapes the activities of the Mouvement Ecologique like no other and is a common thread running through almost all of its statements... For the fact is that today's growth logic has a decisive influence on all aspects of sustainable development.

For example, to take just this example, when the draft of **the new guidelines for national planning** was presented, the Mouvement Ecologique critically questioned the fact that it adopted the government's high growth targets without comment and did not examine in any form whether these would be effectively compatible with a coherent sustainable development of the country.

In addition, the Mouvement Ecologique responded with a detailed statement in the form of a 16-page brochure to the presentation of the latest "bilan technique du régime général d'assurance pension" by the "Inspection générale de la Sécurité Sociale" in April 2022. This document assumes that the population will increase from 460,000 in 2020 to 630,000 in 2070, an annual increase in GDP of 1.8% is necessary, as well as an annual increase



**ENERGIEKNAPPHEET, LOGEMENTSPROBLEMER, BIODIVERSITÉTSVERLOSCHT, ZERSIIDLUNG VUN DER LANDSCHAFT, STAU'EN ...**

**- oder gutt liewen zu  
Lëtzebuerg: De Courage  
hunn fir haut déi richtig  
Froen ze stellen an  
Decisiounen ze huelen**

**RICHTUNGSWALEN 2023**



**mouvement  
écologique**

in productivity of 1.2% until 2070. And yet, in 2070, virtually one active person would have to finance one pensioner. An almost unsustainable burden that the current generation would generation would pass on to the next generation. The Mouvement Ecologique therefore consistently continued to call for a questioning of today's growth logic and for an analysis of how our economic system can be made less dependent on growth. In 2022, the Mouvement Ecologique also commissioned the Austrian Institute for Economic Research to work on a more technical analysis in this regard. This will be published in 2023.

### „SOCIAL AND ECOLOGICAL: TWO SIDES OF THE SAME COIN“

It is inevitable that the social ecological transition can only succeed if ecological and social aspects are considered together. This conviction characterises the statements and projects of the Mouvement Ecologique, e.g. with the demand for socially selective support programmes in the field of "renewable energies" or a fundamental reform of the taxation of company cars. But also the commitment to greener localities or an improvement of air quality are closely related to the social question. This is so that all people, regardless of their financial resources, are offered an equally attracti-

ve and healthy living environment. Even if the Mouvement Ecologique advocates a reform of agricultural policy, this is closely linked to the question of social justice. The state must ensure that everyone has access to quality food, that pesticide exposure is reduced, and so on. In 2022, however, the Tripartite's decision to introduce a general energy price cap also shaped the discussions. The Mouvement Ecologique was highly critical of the fact that the state would subsidise the high energy consumption of high-income earners, who demonstrably consume a great deal of energy. The Mouvement Ecologique argued for social selectivity, which it believed would also increase the incentive to save energy. The Mouvement Ecologique has certainly made a contribution to raising this aspect in public discussions. It is to be hoped that in the coming legislative period there will be much more concrete discussions on how the claim of **social selectivity** in financial instruments can be implemented much more consistently.

### CONFERENCES AND EXCHANGE: AN IMPORTANT BASIS

The Mouvement Ecologique also organised a series of events on the topic. These have a particularly important function, as they allow important issues to be brought to the attention of the interested public. They also allow for a kind of "internal training".

For example, a conference was held on the topic "*Firwat a wei mir d'Natur an d'Gesellschaft nei denken: Ökologische Krise und Klimakatastrophe threaten our future*".

How could it come to this that humanity is currently destroying its own livelihoods? And above all, what changes would be necessary to achieve a turnaround? In a fascinating journey through the history of science, the speaker Fabian Scheidler - philosopher, publicist, dramaturge and winner of the Otto Brenner Media Prize - showed an audience of about 90 people how a technocratic worldview has developed in modern times that degrades nature to a controllable resource in the hands of man. But this worldview has since proved to be a fatal error. According to Scheidler, it corresponds to an economic model based on endless growth and profit maximisation. Nature became an exploitable object, a commodity. Today the question would be what alternatives - also of thinking - are possible. You can find the inspiring conference online at [www.meco.lu](http://www.meco.lu).







## NEW REGISTRATIONS OF FARMS IN LUXEMBOURG FROM AN ECOLOGICAL POINT OF VIEW: MANY QUESTIONS ARISE...

Various planned new settlements of companies, such as the yoghurt factory FAGE and the Knauf company, have been the subject of discussion in the past. Even though there are probably different views on how problematic the settlement of these specific companies would have been, there is a consensus. There is a consensus: Luxembourg must develop new criteria for which new companies or which expansion of existing desirable or not. The Mouvement Ecologique intervened to ensure that the approval criteria were made transparent, unfortunately without success so far.

## GOOGLE PROJECT: THE COMMITMENT CONTINUES!

The Google dossier also accompanied the work of the Mouvement Ecologique in 2022. There is still no data available, including how high the expected water and energy consumption would be. The Mouvement Ecologique therefore continued to advocate that no fait accompli be created and that no permit be granted to Google. This is also about the fundamental question of the development of Luxembourg as a business location: it must finally be ensured that companies interested in settling here do not exceed the natural limits and carrying capacity of the environmental space. Accordingly, a position was taken under the motto: "**Google project - another test case for environmental and economic policy in Luxembourg**". In the process, the limited nature of water as a resource was repeatedly



## SUSTAINABLE TAX REFORM: A "MUST"!

The demand for a sustainable tax reform was also in focus in 2022. The fact is that Luxembourg is still the European laggard in **the taxation of environmental consumption**. Taxation of environmental consumption and, through its wrong tax policy, is virtually fuelling the climate and biodiversity catastrophe. It remains incomprehensible to the Mouvement Ecologique why the government is not addressing this long overdue reform. In 2022, the eminent importance of this reform was raised again on numerous occasions: in statements; in the social media; in discussions, etc.. Unfortunately, still without success. The Mouvement Ecologique will continue to fight for it with all its might.

## NO TO ENVIRONMENTALLY HARMFUL SUBSIDIES

The government's coalition agreement provided for an analysis of which state subsidies are to be classified as harmful to the environment and climate. Comparable studies abroad have shown that the amounts involved are in the billions. For Luxembourg, this should certainly be several hundred million. Incidentally, other countries, such as France, have introduced a "budget vert" in this context, in the context of

which environmentally identifies budget items that are harmful to the environment and the climate as such. The Mouvement Ecologique has urged on a number of occasions that an opportunity for an analysis to finally be prepared for Luxembourg. Unfortunately, without success yet. Therefore, the Mouvement Ecologique initiated its own analysis. This can however, given the limited resources, this can only present the problem in a more summary way. It will be published in 2023.

## FINALLY INTRODUCE THE SUSTAINABILITY CHECK

For two legislative periods now, the introduction of a so-called "sustainability/climate check" for government decisions has been promised. The aim of this check is to examine all government decisions to see whether they also meet the criteria of sustainable development, and the future perspective is to be included to a greater extent. In 2022, the Mouvement Ecologique is again campaigning for its creation and implementation. Nevertheless, there is still no such check. What is the government afraid of? The Mouvement Ecologique remains on the ball.

addressed. For example, in the middle of the year, the director of the water management office took a stand on the Google dossier and gave the impression that the water problem had been solved because Google would use industrial water, i.e. water from the sewage treatment plant. The Mouvement Ecologique had already taken a stand on this: the using sewage water would not be a solution. Especially in the summer months, there would not be enough water available, Moreover, the surface waters would lack it. Topics of the statements were: "No dësem Summer: Waassergestioun maachen zu engen politischen Thema - Neen zu Google!" - "Cooling the Google plant at the expense of the general public?! Basic Questions still remain unanswered!"

**Furthermore, it has been repeatedly advocated that a sustainability check for companies should finally be introduced.**

## **REPAIR, REUSE, SHARE AND CIRCULAR ECONOMY: IMPORTANT INSTRUMENTS AGAINST THE CLIMATE AND DIVERSITY CRISIS**

Destruction of habitats, excessive consumption and use of resources, exuberant globalisation, dependence on worldwide supply chains ... are just some of the fatal foundations on which our modes of consumption and economy are based. At the same time, values such as "sharing" - "togetherness" - "solidarity" are being focused on and supported by more and more people. This development can be seen in a whole range of diverse initiatives: from repair cafés and open workshops to the renovation of furniture through work initiatives, the repair and reuse of electrical and electronic equipment and much more. A large number of them make an important contribution to the development of other forms of life and economy, to a large extent also as "bottom up" initiatives. It is important to strengthen this trend by providing the necessary framework conditions.



### **A CATALOGUE OF DEMANDS FOR MORE REPAIR**

In order for social and economic changes really progress, politics must set the right framework. Products must be repairable, for example, otherwise the individual is at the mercy of the situation, to give just this example.

Mouvement Ecologique and Oekozenner Pafendall have produced a detailed catalogue of concrete proposals to promote "repair-reuse-share", both at the national and the EU level. This was published on the occasion of the International Repair Day on 15 October and presented to the responsible actors but also to the general public.

### **FIXIT! REPAIR, REUSE, SHARE – START OF A NEW CAMPAIGN**

On the occasion of the past International Repair Day, Mouvement Ecologique and Oekozenner Pafendall had launched a campaign called "fixit! Flécken.Léinen.Notzen." was launched! In the future, users will receive regular updates on Facebook and on the website of the Mouvement Ecologique ([www.meco.lu](http://www.meco.lu)) and the Oekozenner Pafendall.

Oekozenner Pafendall ([www.oekozenner.lu](http://www.oekozenner.lu)) with concrete tips for repairing and repair and lend, as well as interesting background information from the field of "Repair, Reuse, Share". This also includes addresses for buying second hand, repair instructions in case of a defect of an electronic device and much more. So check back regularly to make sure you don't miss a tip!

### **THE COMMITMENT AGAINST THE UNECOLOGICAL, UNSOCIAL AND UNDEMOCRATIC FREE TRADE AGREEMENTS CONTINUES.**

In 2022, free trade agreements were less on the Luxembourg political agenda. However, the Mouvement Ecologique remains vigilant, especially with regard to the so-called Mercosur Agreement, the free trade agreement between the EU and the Latin American countries Argentina, Brazil, Paraguay and Uruguay. In 2023, there will certainly be more action again political statements will be published. The The organisation of world trade remains an extremely important dossier.



**REPARÉIERE MUSS ENG  
SELBSTVERSTÄNDLECHKEET GINN -  
DE RICHTEGE POLITESCHE  
KADER SCHAFFEN !**

STOPP DER RESSOURCEVERSCHWENDUNG AN DEM  
IHWERMÉISSEGE KONSUM -  
JO ZU RESSOURCESCHUTZ AN ENGEM  
ANERE MATENEEN

Rechtsdienst unterstützt vom Ministerium  
für Umwelt, Klima und nachhaltige  
Entwicklung im Rahmen einer Kooperation  
mit dem Deutschen Patent- und Markenamt.

**ACTION GROUP: CONGRATULATIONS TO LUXEMBOURG: ANOTHER 2ND PLACE AT OVERSHOOT DAY!**

To mark Luxembourg's Overshoot Day on 14 February 2022, the action group of the Mouvement Ecologique held a funeral parade in front of the Chamber of Deputies. The message: Luxembourg has achieved a top ranking in this year's race for the earliest "Overshoot Day" in a country comparison! With an annual consumption of eight Earths, we already

reach Overshoot Day on 14 February. Silver medal, just behind Qatar. On Overshoot Day itself, a funeral parade was held in front of the Chamber of Deputies. Led by trumpet and drum, 8 earths were symbolically burst. Passers-by could to express their mourning by laying flowers at a specially erected memorial plaque. memorial plaque. Take a look [www.meco.lu](http://www.meco.lu): there you will find a video video of the action and more photos.

**REFORM BODIES: STIMULATING PROPOSALS FROM THE "COURS DES COMPTES"**

In its report on the national budget this year, the Cour des comptes formulated an extremely pertinent suggestion, among many other important considerations concerning climate and biodiversity protection: The Court of Audit advocates "inviting the main organisations involved in the fight against climate change to the negotiating table in order to ensure that the socio-ecological dimension is included in future agreements". The ACA thus launched a debate on the extent to which the composition of current institutions is still up to date or needs to be reformed (independently of the "tripartite" issue). The Mouvement Ecologique expressly welcomes this initiative of the Court of Audit, which has given and continues to give rise to discussions. and continues to give rise to discussions. The reform of the institutions will be one of the central further demands of the Mouvement Ecologique.





# Giving environmental policy a different status!

In the public eye, environmental policy is often associated with environmental discrepancies, exceeding of limit values, especially with regard to air quality, or "scandals" in the limelight. In this context, special attention must be paid to preventive environmental protection, which on the one hand should prevent such developments and on the other hand should guarantee citizens a high quality of their environment.

## COMMODO-INCOMMODO DOSSIERS, WASTE, WATER ISSUES, NOISE, POLLUTION, AIRPORT ...

It is obvious that environmental policy runs like a thread through the work of the Mouvement Ecologique. The Mouvement Ecologique supports citizens who need information on air quality, who want to submit objections / suggestions in the context of operating licences, the limited water resources in Luxembourg are often addressed, questions on air pollution are taken up, the South Region is represented in the "ARCELOR-Comité de suivi" and so on. These issues are incorporated into the work of the Mouvement Ecologique on a daily basis, in various statements and consultations with concerned citizens.

## BOTTLED WATER FROM JUNG-LINSTER!? MOUVEMENT ECOLOGIQUE RAISES OBJECTION

In March 2022, the Mouvement Ecologique filed an objection as part of the public procedure for the designation of a "Zone spéciale - embouteillage de l'eau minérale" in Graulinger. It is planned that spring water can be bottled and commercialised at this site by a private operator. The Mouvement criticised, among other things, the fact that important documents (permits, environmental impact studies) were not available during the public procedure, so that no sufficiently fact-based assessment of the environmental consequences of the project was possible. Furthermore, the the Mouvement Ecologique noted that the municipality of Junglinster would be well advised to protect its groundwater reserves and make them available for the common good, instead

of privatising them and thus completely abandoning them.

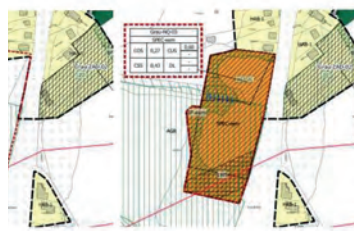
## OBJECTION TO THE FURTHER EXPANSION OF THE KRONOSPAN COMPANY AT THIS TIME

2022 wurde, vor allem Dank der Arbeiten der Regionale Süden des Mouvement Ecologique, Einspruch im Rahmen der offiziellen Kommodo-Inkommodo Prozedur zum Ausbau der KRONOSPAN Luxembourg eingereicht. Fakt ist: die Firma respektierte in der Vergangenheit ihre Anlagen für das bestehende Werk nicht. Bevor ein Ausbau genehmigt werden kann, gilt es sicherzustellen, dass das heutige Werk seinen gesetzlichen Ansprüchen gerecht wird.

## NEW WASTE ACT: AN IMPORTANT STEP, BUT THE EFFECT DEPENDS ON IMPLEMENTATION

The new Waste Act is an important step towards protecting resources.

However, its success now depends to a large extent on the quality of its implementation. Further steps are necessary. We have to get away from seeing raw materials as waste, raw materials as waste, they are a valuable resource. Priority must be given to the avoidance of waste instead of focusing on recycling. The same applies to the concept of a circular economy. The laws as they now stand are a first step and a basis for important reforms. De facto, however, their real contribution to the reduction of waste and the valorisation of resources - and above all the acceptance for a new strategy in the area of recyclables and resources - will depend on the very concrete implementation. This presupposes that ALL actors are aware of their responsibility and participate in real terms! In a detailed statement, the Mouvement Ecologique addressed the individual aspects.





## ORGANISATION OF EVENTS

Also last year, the Mouvement Ecologique - together with the Oekozer Pafendall - organised events on the theme "Repair, ReUse, Share", this within the framework of a convention of the Oekozer Pafendall with the Ministry of Environment:

- **Repairing instead of throwing away: How can the state and municipalities promote the repair of appliances?** was the title of an online conference that aimed to show how repair can be promoted by public authorities, using examples from Germany and France. Marie Hervier-Collas (coordinator for reuse and repair at the Agence de la transition écologique (ADEME) in Angers (France) introduced the conference participants to the topics of the repair fund and the repair index, both examples from France. Christina Ax then discussed key aspects of the topic. She informed the participants about the so-called "repair bonus". (member of the board of the "Netzwerk Runder Tisch Reparatur"). With about 100 participants, the conference met with great interest.

- **How can classic recycling centres become resource centres? Opportunities and hurdles illustrated by the concrete example of the waste syndicate SIVEC (Schiffingen) and the BENU Village (Esch).**: Mouvement Ecologique and Oekozer Pafendall invited to a guided tour of the recycling centre of the waste syndicate SIVEC in Schiffingen and the BENU Village in Esch. The 30 or so participants were shown how supposed "waste" can be reused and even turned into high-quality products. The tour was rounded off with a round of talks in which, among other things, the new waste legislation, problems in waste disposal and the use of resources were discussed. But also the role of Valorlux, the right to repair, instruments (to be created) to promote



repair services were addressed. While there are already many approaches and solutions in practice, impatience was expressed that in terms of regulations, much is still up in the air with regard to the circular economy and in particular the concrete orientation of the resource centres. Almost all conferences are available via the Youtube channel (@mouveco) or the website [www.meco.lu](http://www.meco.lu).

### MANY CONVERSATIONS: AN INSIGHT INTO EVERYDAY ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY

In addition, a whole series of meetings with ministries and administrations took place, above all, understandably, with the Ministry of the Environment.

### "NO ADVERTISING PLEASE" CAMPAIGN SAVED THOUSANDS OF TONNES OF WOOD, PAPER AND ENERGY IN 30 YEARS!

A small yellow sticker with a big impact. It has been emblazoned on 60 per cent of the letterboxes in Luxembourg for over 30 years now and demands: "Keng Reklamme wgl." Now the new waste management law is supposed to bring about changes. This is a good reason to take a look back and look forward. The sticker is still current (the law does not take effect immediately). It is remarkable how many trees could be saved by this small action! It can still be ordered at: [meco@oeko.lu](mailto:meco@oeko.lu).

**ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY IS DECISIVELY SHAPED BY DECISIONS IN THE AREAS OF ECONOMY, MOBILITY, ETC. THEREFORE, REFERENCE SHOULD ALSO BE MADE TO THE OTHER THEMATIC AREAS OF THIS ACTIVITY REPORT.**







## Stopping the loss of biodiversity and promoting the relationship between people and nature

In 2022, the Mouvement Ecologique once again made it its task to draw attention to the loss of biodiversity and the consequences that this also has for us humans. Concrete proposals for the protection and preservation of biodiversity were formulated and politicians were made aware of their responsibility in this regard. Major topics included the improvement of instruments for strong nature conservation, the reduction of the use of pesticides, the greening of our localities and much more.

### REFORM OF THE NATURE CONSERVATION ACT: IMPROVEMENTS WITH LIMITED EXIGENCY!

In January 2022, a reform of the Nature Conservation Act was passed by the Chamber of Deputies. One year before, the Mouvement Ecologique published a detailed statement on which improvements were necessary from its point of view ("*Use the improvements to the Nature Conservation Act as an opportunity!*"). The Mouvement Ecologique is of the opinion that some welcome innovations were adopted in the reform that was then carried out (anchoring light pollution in the law; facilitations for certain activities in the fields of agriculture, horticulture or vegetable growing; expansion of the "droit de préemption" on areas along streams or the protection of "*arbres remarquables*", among others). However, one might have expected that a more determined reform would have led to greater protection of our natural environment, changes in agricultural practice practice as well as an increase in the acceptance of nature conservation

measures could have been achieved. Unfortunately, the essential issues were not issues were not addressed by the reform, so that the Mouvement Ecologique responded at the beginning of 2022 with a statement entitled "*Reform of the Nature Conservation Act: Reform with limited ambition!*" reacted. In 2022, the Mouvement Ecologique

continued to campaign for these to be focus and to bring about solutions. solutions be brought about.





**BERICHT 2017-2021 VUM „OBSERVATOIRE DE L'ENVIRONNEMENT NATUREL" – ALÄERT ZUM ZOUSTAND VUN DER NATUR ZU LËTZEBUERG**

At the end of March, the "Observatoire de l'Environnement Naturel" - in which the Mouvement Ecologique is represented - presented the 2017-2021 report on the situation of the conservation status of nature and the implementation of the 2nd National Nature Conservation Plan (the central instrument in the nature instrument in the field of nature conservation in Luxembourg). Despite the high ambitions of the 2nd National Nature Conservation Plan (PNPN 2) and the efforts of a large number of state and local actors and NGOs to improve the state of biodiversity and habitats in Luxembourg, the Observatory's report comes to extremely worrying conclusions. In particular, the intensive agricultural production methods, the fragmentation of landscapes by transport infrastructures, the sealing of soils in the course of urbanisation, and the pollution of water bodies, soil and air by agriculture, traffic and industry are leaving less and less space for nature in Luxembourg. In view of the importance of this report, the Mouvement Ecologique participated in its presentation within the framework of a webinar.

**PROPOSALS FROM THE MOUVEMENT ECOLOGIQUE ON THE „PLAN NATIONAL CONCERNANT LA PROTECTION DE LA NATURE 2022-2030 (PNPN3)"**

Within the framework of the public procedure for the third "Plan National concernant la Protection de la Nature 2022-2030 (PNPN3)", the Mouvement Ecologique submitted a 16-page statement in November 2022 with specific proposals for amendments. This was preceded by various discussions with officials of the Ministry of the Environment. This plan is of eminent importance for biodiversity in Luxembourg, as it defines the priorities for the coming years, including the available financial resources. The main demands were that an evaluation of the PNPN2 (i.e. where measures failed, etc.) must be carried out before a new PNPN3 is drawn up, and that priorities and ambitious targets must be set. Unnecessary administrative hurdles should be abolished and the acceptance of nature conservation reduced. Unfortunately, the proposals of the Mouvement Ecologique hardly found their way into the PNPN3, which was adopted in February 2023.

**PRESERVING THE NATURAL ENVIRONMENT: AGRICULTURAL POLICY MUST TAKE RESPONSIBILITY!**

Without a reorientation of agricultural policy, it will not be possible to preserve the natural foundations of life. For it is in the "open countryside" - i.e. outside towns and cities - in the open countryside and on agricultural land, that the loss of biodiversity is most problematic. Consistent action and, above all, optimised co-determination rights of the Ministry of the Environment are essential here. In 2022, the Mouvement Ecologique then also committed itself to reforms at the level of agricultural policy. This included a whole series of dossiers.

**REFORMING LUXEMBOURG'S AGRICULTURE**

In 2022, Luxembourg was working on a new agricultural law. At the end of 2021, Greenpeace, natur&ëmwelt as well as Mouvement Ecologique had taken a joint stand and submitted objections within the framework of the public procedure. In addition, an advertisement was placed under the "label" "Ministry for Sustainable Agricultural Policy", pointing out the importance of reforms in agricultural policy, in the interest of the general public, but also of farmers. Although it was clearly recognisable that this was an advertisement of a fictitious (but desirable) ministry and it was also



labelled by the 3 environmental organisations, the Ministry of State and the Ministry of Agriculture filed a lawsuit against the organisations. The organisations reacted calmly: *"It is to be hoped that the political actors, with the same consistency as they now wish to take legal action against the organisations, would address the substantive arguments put forward."* The discussions about the necessary reforms in agricultural policy also accompanied the Mouvement Ecologique. The Mouvement Ecologique was also involved in various statements in 2022 (on the National Action Plan for Nature Conservation, etc.).

## NEW FOOD CERTIFICATION AND QUALITY SYSTEM - A SHAM!

In May 2022, a new certification and quality system was passed in the Chamber of Deputies to label food products that can be marked with the logo "Luxembourg - agréé par l'Etat". The Mouvement Ecologique as well as the "Lëtzebuurger Landjugend a Jongbaueren" had already described this draft law as *"Eng Mogelpackung 'agréé par l'Etat Luxembourgeois" ?!"* in a detailed joint statement in 2021. Although the competent commission of the Chamber of Deputies probably

made some improvements to the draft law of the Ministry of Agriculture due to pressure (e.g. the ban on the use of glyphosate was included as a minimum criterion), the legislative project falls far short of these requirements! The title of the statement of the Mouvement Ecologique in this regard as well as the *"Lëtzebourg Rural Youth a Jongbaueren"* were therefore obvious: *"New certification and quality system for food - narrow deception 'agréé par l'Etat Luxembourgeois" ?!"*

## USING RESTOPOLIS AS AN ACTOR IN THE AGRICULTURAL TRANSITION!

Restopolis, the structure of the Ministry of Education, which is responsible for the restoration of school canteens, is to be given the statute of an administration. As early as 2021, the Mouvement Ecologique and the *"Lëtzebuurger Landjugend a Jongbaueren"* jointly argued that the law project should, among other things, define clear rules of origin and quality for the food used. This was not foreseen in the original law project. It would be a state responsibility to support organic regional food cultivation much more than was currently the case. It was known that Restopolis was already making efforts. However, these would have to be further expan-



ded and legally anchored. Likewise, criteria for the offer of vegetarian and vegan vegetarian and vegan dishes. In 2022, the Mouvement Ecologique as well as the *"Landjugend a Jongbaueren"* continued to be consistently engaged in this dossier. Among other things, they published a 16-page brochure on the draft law entitled: *"45,000 dishes for young people and teachers every day: organic, regional and healthy?!"* The decision on the future direction of Restopolis lies with the government and parliament!". Several discussions took place, among others, two talks with the Minister of Education, Claude Meisch, who is responsible for the legislative project, but also with the Minister of Agriculture, Claude Haagen. It is positive that the suggestions of the two organisations have already been responded to: Some improvements have been made to the calls for tenders for foodstuffs, and work has been done on optimising the specifications for the procurement of foodstuffs. Minister C. Meisch also promised to make appropriate improvements to the draft law. The dossier is likely to have struck a chord with many people. This is not without reason: school restoration is of particular importance at all levels and it would be incomprehensible if the government failed to set accents here! Because there are actually no counter-arguments against a restoration that increasingly focuses on regional and organic food and more participation by the schools!





## **FOR A CONSISTENT REDUCTION OF PESTICIDE USE.**

Another outstanding dossier in the area of "agricultural policy" is that of the pesticide problem. It is well known that synthetic plant protection products (pesticides) are not only harmful to human health, but are also responsible for the loss of biodiversity and the pollution of surface waters and groundwater reserves, are produced in an energy-intensive way, etc. is well known. The Mouvement Ecologique has continued to campaign for a consistent reduction in the use of pesticides in 2022. Not only at national, but also at European and international level.

## **TRANSPARENCY ON PESTICIDE USE STILL MISSING?!**

In February, the Mouvement Ecologique, together with 78 other European organisations/actors, signed an open letter to European leaders, calling on them to commit to transparent recording, management, evaluation and publication of statistics on the use of pesticides in agriculture. At present, the dossier is not yet closed, so 2023 will be decisive.

## **HIGHLY CONTAMINATED FOOD: INCOMPREHENSIBLE REACTION FROM THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS**

The Mouvement Ecologique reported at the end of 2021 about the residues of pesticides in food found in analyses carried out by the Ministry of Health. The Mouvement Ecologique approached the Minister with a question on how she intended to react. to respond. The response was extremely disappointing. In addition to refusing to agree to an exchange on the subject, the minister does not address any of the basic issues in her In addition to refusing to agree to an exchange on the issue, the minister did not address the fundamental questions in her reply (how can this contamination and the consumption of the food be prevented, etc.). Furthermore, the minister's statement on the national action plan for the reduction of pesticides is highly disconcerting: although the Ministry of Health is mentioned in this document

Although the Ministry of Health is mentioned in this document as the body responsible for implementing various concrete measures, Ms Lenert passed on the proverbial "hot potato" to the Ministry of Agriculture. The Mouvement Ecologique is staying on it!

## **STATEMENT "MY AGRICULTURE": EU REGULATION ON THE REDUCTION OF PESTICIDES DRAGGED OUT**

In March 2022, an EU regulation on the reduction of pesticides was to be presented, which was to replace the directive on the sustainable use of pesticides from 2009. However, this was postponed by the European Commission with reference to the war in Ukraine and the feared food shortages. As part of these discussions, the Meng Agriculture Platform - of which the Mouvement Ecologique is a member - approached the Minister of Agriculture, Viticulture and Rural Development in April 2022, the Minister of Health, the Minister of the Environment, Climate and Sustainable Development, the members of the relevant parliamentary committees and the members of the European Parliament and asked them to ensure that Luxembourg takes all necessary measures to restore biodiversity and prevent damage to health, water and the environment. This with the aim of rewarding farmers who work with their with their natural resources and to and pay them fair prices for the healthy food they produce. In December 2022, a group of of EU

member states - including including Luxembourg - to ask the Commission to include an additional analysis in the impact assessment of the new EU Plant Health Regulation. In other words, to set back a reduction of pesticide use by the corresponding regulation by months, if not years. Mouvement Ecologique and Greenpeace Luxembourg appealed in another letter to the Ministries of Agriculture, Environment and Health as well as to the chairpersons of the respective parliamentary commissions not to block the draft law any further. Unfortunately without success. Pesticide residues in bee pollen in Luxembourg: Where do we stand? What do the analyses say about the general exposure to pesticides?

In June 2022, the Mouvement Ecologique invited to an information event on "Réckstänn vu Pestiziden am Beipollen zu Lëtzebuerg" at the Oeko-zenter Pafendall. In front of a full hall, the results of "BeeFirst", an analysis on "biocide and pesticide residues in pollen", carried out by LIST (Luxembourg Institute of Science and Technology) on behalf of the Ministry of Agriculture, were presented and discussed. Roger Dammé (Mouvement Écologique) put the results of the pollen monitoring in the context of other available data on pesticide sales, use and residues in Luxembourg. Dr Marco Beyer (Luxembourg Institute of Science and Technology, LIST) presented the results of the



pollen analyses. This was followed by a stimulating round table discussion with the speakers and Alexandra Arendt (Lëtzebuerger Landesverband fir Beizenzuucht), Jacques Engel (ASTA, Chargé d'études Produits phytosanitaires-législation) and M. Marc Weyland (ASTA, Directeur). Among the topics discussed were the role of agriculture, the implementation of the pesticide action plan, how to reduce the use of pesticides, etc. For the Mouvement Ecologique, the information that 75% of the samples of the pollen study are contaminated with pesticides is one of the most explosive findings. EU Commission recognises d'Citizens' Initiative "Save Bees and Farmers!"

On 10 October 2022, the European Commission gave the green light and declared the European Citizens' Initiative (ECI) "Save Bees and Farmers! - for which the Mouvement Ecologique had also campaigned - was valid. More than one million citizens of the European Union had joined the initiative for a gradual phase-out of pesticide use. In Luxembourg, too, 5,293 people supported the citizens' initiative with their signatures. Environmental organisations welcome the step and see the success as a strong signal in the discussion on European pesticide legislation.

### Roundtable: Pesticides and the right to a healthy environment

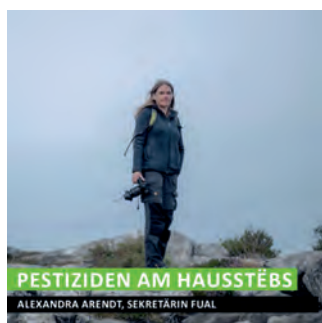
In September, SOS Faim and Mouvement Ecologique, in partnership with the Amis de la Déclaration des Droits des Paysans du Luxembourg and Meng Agriculture, organised a round table on pesticides and the right to a healthy environment. Although the use of various harmful pesticides is banned in Europe, we continue to find them on our plates. Why? The production of these substances and also the import of food treated with them is still allowed. These substances are therefore not allowed to be applied on European soil, but they are produced in Europe, exported, applied in other countries (often in the global south) - where they cause great harm to humans and nature - and (re)imported with the fruit, vegetables and other food. An impossible situation that must be changed....

### PESTIZIDLOBBY ASS OP MÉI AFLOSS AUS: WÉI REAGÉIERT LËTZEBUERG?

In November 2022, Mouvement Ecologique, SOS Faim, natur&ëmwelt asbl, Greenpeace Lëtzebuerg and the Pesticide Action Network addressed a letter to the Minister of Cooperation and Humanitarian Aid, Franz Fayot. The minister was called upon to oppose the partnership between the Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations (FAO) and the association of pesticide producers (Croplife). At the same time, it was asked what steps have already been taken or are planned for the FAO to terminate its partnership with Croplife. In addition, the question was raised whether Luxembourg was considering making the funding of the FAO conditional on the immediate termination of the cooperation with Croplife International. A response from the Minister is not yet available at this time.

### ALL CITIZENS ARE CHRONICALLY EXPOSED TO PESTICIDES - THE STATE MUST ACT!!

With house dust analyses of 11 Luxembourg personalities, the Mouvement Ecologique revealed at the end of 2022: regardless of where you live, each of us is exposed to pesticide contamination. These results confirm official analyses which already showed that 52% of food from conventional agriculture (vs. 0% of organic food), 100% of surface wa-







ters, 50% of aquifers and 75% of bee pollen are polluted with pesticides. In its 13-page statement, the Mouvement Ecologique explained why we can expect to be exposed to chronic pesticide pollution and what policy makers need to do. The statement, the report on the house dust analysis and the interesting statements of the participants were also sent to the responsible ministries with a request for a statement. This action was particularly well received and made it possible to draw much more attention to the fact that everyone, even if they eat organic food and are not directly exposed to it, should be aware of it. organic food and who does not live directly adjacent to intensively farmed intensively cultivated farmland is exposed. Since the individual cannot really protect himself, politics is called upon all the more!

### **MULTIVISION LECTURE: ACTORS ON THE FIELD EDGE**

In September 2022, the Nature Research Society of Luxembourg (SNL), in cooperation with the Mouvement Ecologique and numerous other partner organisations, invited to the multivision lecture "Actors at the Edge of the Field" by Roland Günter. With impressive macro photographs, exciting stories and well-founded knowledge, the biologist and nature photographer drew attention to the threats and the decli-

ne of these endangered communities. and explained what measures are necessary to ensure that the colourful fields do not become a thing of the past.

### **PROTECT THE FOREST ECOSYSTEM! MORE SO IN TIMES OF CLIMATE CRISIS**

**Preserve the forest ecosystem - consistently stop the expansion of forest paths/roads**

Good forest governance as well as contained forest road construction are central to the preservation of the forest ecosystem. Therefore, the Mouvement Ecologique carried out a number of activities in this context. For example, it repeatedly took a stand on the excessive construction of roads, which is a central problem. On the one hand, this is because heat penetrates the forest through the clearing of the canopy, which is particularly problematic in times of climate catastrophe, but also because of the further compaction of the soils, etc. For example, in a press release entitled "Priority for the protection of valuable biotope trees in our forests instead of forestry use - Or at what distance from the path does a tree already represent a safety risk?" Took a stand. The Mouvement Ecologique drew attention to the destruction of several valuable biotope trees. of valuable biotope trees, which were

felled in the course of forestry work. The felled trees were home to wild honey bees, among others, which must be protected at all costs. In this context, the Mouvement Ecologique demanded targeted further training for foresters and forest workers, as well as the control of internal procedures and processes of the nature and forest administration. For general sensitisation, a hike through the very species-rich forests around Keispelt / Meispelt and a visit to the "Haff a Sewen" also took place.

### **ABSOLUTELY NECESSARY IS A REDUCTION OF THE GAME POPULATION!**

The very high game population leads to the fact that especially the regeneration in the forest, which is so necessary especially in view of climate change, partly has no chance because it is immediately browsed. For this reason, the Mouvement Ecologique 2021 addressed on numerous occasions how important a reduction of the game population is for the survival of the forest ecosystem. For example, in March, a forest tour was held in Mompach together with FSC Lëtzebuerg under the title "Forests as allies in the fight against climate change: what needs to be done? The damage that too much game can cause in the forest was explained. Game prevents the naturally occurring pedunculate oak-hornbeam forest from surviving and promotes the





copper beech, which does not grow old on the heavy soils. Information was also provided on the role of the forest as an important carbon sink in times of climate change.

### „FREE-LIVING HONEY BEES - HELP US FIND THEM!“

In May 2022, the Mouvement Ecologique launched a call to record wild bee colonies, both in tree hollows and in man-made structures such as old buildings, chimneys, walls, attics, nesting boxes, etc. On the one hand, recording the locations is important to prove that there are still free-living bee colonies. On the other hand, these sites should be protected in the longer term if possible - either in consultation with the owners or by reporting them to the forestry administration. Known sites can be reported by e-mail to [natur@oeko.lu](mailto:natur@oeko.lu).

### IS THE "BOBËSCH" BEING SACRIFICED FOR ANOTHER BYPASS ROAD?

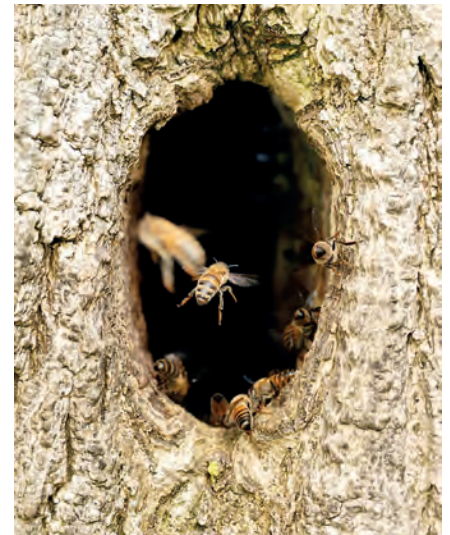
In 2022, the "Bobësch" was the focus of attention, as part of this valuable forest area was to make way for the "Käerjenger Contournement". A local citizens' initiative as well as the Mouvement Ecologique's regional office are consistently campaigning for the preservation of the forest. In the summer, the national associations of Mouvement Ecologique, "Greenpeace" and [natur&emwelt](http://natur&emwelt.lu) also took the floor. In this context, a visit to the forest compensation area "an den Aessen tëschent Zolwer an Éilereng" also took place in April 2022.

Here, 30 years ago, a "new forest" was planted as compensation for the destruction caused by the construction of the "Collectrice du Sud". But even after 30 years, no forest community has been able to develop here.

### "NATUR NOW" CAMPAIGN!

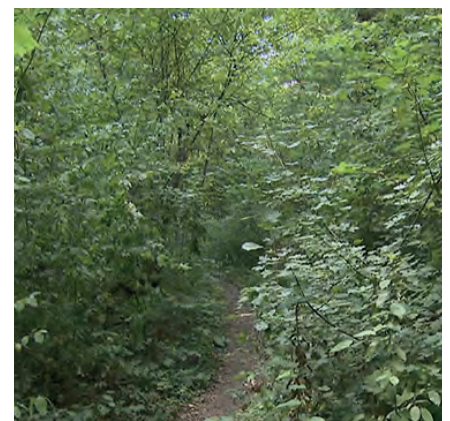
The greening of towns and villages is of eminent importance for people. It increases well-being, quality of life, health and plays a crucial role in the climate adaptation of our cities and villages. Furthermore, it also benefits biodiversity by maintaining contact between people and nature and creating (new) habitats and refuges for a variety of species and maintaining connectivity between habitats. Since 2021, Oekozynter Pafendall and Mouvement Ecologique have been committed to greening our towns and villages. As part of the "Nature elo!" campaign, which also includes the actions "Kéiseker", "Schléifer", "A full Bléi" and "Nee zum Schottergaart", the webinar series "Méi Gréngs an eise Stied an Dierfer" was invited, among others. More than 400 people from ministries, municipalities, study and planning offices, nature conservation syndicates and interested citizens took part in the webinars. The video recordings of the lectures were viewed over 7,600 times (Youtube). The campaign has certainly contributed to raising awareness of the importance of greening cities.

The following events and activities were organised in 2022 to build on this success.:



### FLYER „ MÉI GRÉNGS AN EISE STIED AN DIERFER“

At the beginning of 2022, the leaflet for the campaign "Méi Gréngs an eise Stied an Dierfer" was published. It shows why we all benefit from more healthy trees, small and large green spaces, roof and façade







green roofs and facades etc. in towns and villages! It was sent to municipalities, planning offices and gardening companies as well as interested citizens. It has been sent to municipalities, planning offices and gardening companies as well as interested citizens and can be downloaded from the campaign website (also in French).

### SURVEY OF POLITICAL AND PROFESSIONAL ACTORS

The Oekozynter Pafendall and the Mouvement Ecologique conducted a survey at the end of 2021 among professional and political actors, but also among interested citizens. The aim was to find out where they currently see opportunities and obstacles for greening our villages and towns. The results were published in a comprehensive brochure in 2022, sent to ministries, municipalities and planning offices and presented at a press conference. Concrete suggestions for all actors (ministries, municipalities, planning offices, etc.) were created and

communicated from the survey results and the experiences made so far in the campaign.

### TOUR OF THE CLIMATE TREE TRAIL - WHICH TREES IN THE CITY AND IN THE VILLAGES IN TIMES OF CLIMATE CHANGE?

In May, June and October 2022, Mouvement Ecologique, its Regional Nordstad and the Oekozynter Pafendall invited people to visit the climate tree trail in Ettelbrück. Two of the three visits were aimed at professionals from ministries, administrations, municipalities, study and planning offices. The excursions were led by the founder of the arboretum in Ettelbrück, Eike Jablonski. The main focus of the visits was on so-called "climate trees". They are the hope for stressful tree locations in urban areas. One of the conclusions of the visits was that a diversity of species and varieties is needed to counteract the changes and to maintain a healthy tree population in settlement areas. A total of 80 participants took part in the visits.

### STIMULATING ONLINE EXCHANGE ON THE TOPIC OF GREEN ROOFS AND FAÇADES

In March, Mouvement Ecologique and Oekozynter Pafendall invited to an online exchange with Dr. Gunter Mann, President of the Bundesverband Gebäudegreen ("In times of climate change and biodiversity loss - How can green roofs and facades succeed"). The aim of the event was to bring together planners, architects, contractors, municipal representatives, representatives of ministries and interested private individuals to discuss the topic of greening buildings using the example of implemented projects and thus to promote the further expansion of greening buildings. 52 people took part in the online exchange.







In 2022, OekoZenter and Mouvement sounded out some municipalities in Luxembourg to find out if and how such a project could also be implemented in this country.

A specific webinar on this project will take place in 2023.

## MAKE ROOM - LIVEABLE AND LIVELY NEIGHBOURHOODS AND VILLAGES TO MEET EACH OTHER

The project "Maach Plaz" consists of three vivid, animated clips that show the transformation of three squares in Luxembourg cities in a journey through time: Place de Stalingrad in Esch-sur-Alzette; Hollerich entrance (Place St.Pierre et Paul) - Luxembourg City and "Stäreplaz" in Mersch. The clips convey how enriching it can be when public spaces are transformed into green places of encounter and togetherness - away from concrete and noise. The visions in the films are not real plans, but they are meant to open the "mind", to let you dream... for everything that could be possible. They are meant to inspire and whet our appetites so that we can set out to rethink our localities. As part of the "Maach Plaz!" campaign, in addition to the three clips, a flyer and concrete demands to national politics, to the municipalities as well as suggestions to the citizens who want to be part of the change were prepared and published and presented at a press conference. The clips were viewed around 5,000 times (Facebook & Youtube).

## ATTRACTIVE WEBSITE – WWW.NATURELO.MECO.LU

Also in 2022, the content of the campaign website was regularly updated and supplemented. Not only with material and content from our own production. Also new publications from home and abroad and inspiring projects which can serve as good practice examples, are added on a regular basis.

## „IT IS HOT IN LUXEMBOURG“

In the summer of 2022, when temperatures in Luxembourg rose above 30°C, the Pafendall EcoCentre and the Mouvement Ecologique were out with a thermal imaging camera to make the heat visible. A thermal imaging camera can be used to approximate the difference in temperature between a sun-exposed, sealed square (e.g. the "Glacis") and under a shaded allée (e.g. at the bd Dr Charles Marx). A difference of up to 25°C! In the avenue de la Liberté, at the "Rousegaertchen", temperatures of around 60°C were measured on the asphalt. In the adjacent rose bed, temperatures are around 35-40°C. That's better. But it is even cooler in the shade of the park in Kirchberg. While the asphalt in front of the park heats up to around 50°C, the temperature in the park is a pleasant 26-30°C. The results of these measurements were published on the internet and social media. On Facebook and Instagram alone, the post reached 45,253 people. 6,418 interactions

took place, including 130 comments. The press also reported on the action and the cooling potential of unsealed surfaces and trees.

## CREATE OASES

Another project presented at the online seminar "*Méi Gréngs an eise Stied an Dierfer - Den ëffentleche Raum fir a mat de Bierger:innen naturno design*" and which OekoZenter Pafendall and Mouvement Ecologique would also like to establish in Luxembourg, is the project of "Grätzloasen" or "Parklet". These "oases in the neighbourhood" are green seating areas that residents build and use in their streets with financial support from the city/municipality, thus transforming the street space (parking space) into a lively place to stay and meet.

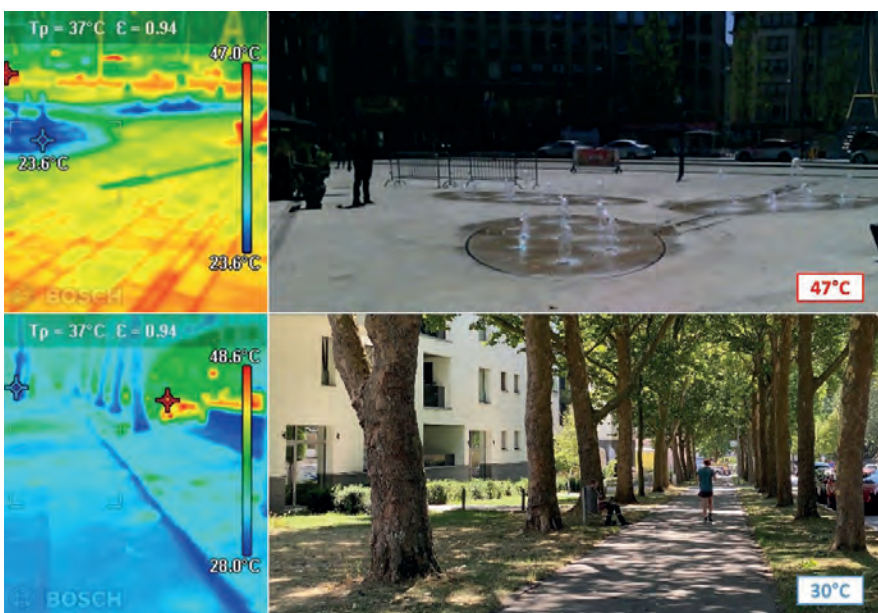
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c) epilogy-photography



### WILD PLANT SEEDS FROM THE REGION - ALSO AVAILABLE AT THE OEKOZENTER

For several years now, the nature conservation syndicate SICONA and the "natur musée" have been working together with their partners to produce wild plant seeds from Luxembourg and the region. The aim is to plant flower meadows to promote biodiversity and as a source of food for insects, both on public green spaces, in private gardens and especially in the agricultural landscape. Oekozenner Pafendall and Mouvement Ecologique support this initiative by offering to sell the seed mixtures. The seeds are also actively promoted among the members of the Mouvement Ecologique, as well as in the framework of the action "In full blossom" campaign.

### DORMOUSE, GARDEN DORMOUSE AND HAZEL DORMOUSE

As part of the "Aktioun Schléifer", Mouvement Ecologique and Oekozenner Pafendall, together with their partners ABIOL, 'natur musée', Frënn vum 'natur musée' and SNL, invited to an online conference "Dormice, Garden Dormice and Hazel Dormice: The Awakening of the Dormice! Who they are, where they occur and why we should protect them" with wildlife biologist Johannes LANG (University of Giessen / Institute for Animal Ecology and Nature Education). 2022 presented the interim results of the "Aktioun Schléifer" of the Mouvement Ecologique. The idea was that everyone who was interested should register at iNaturist.LU if they could disco-

ver a "Schléifer". The result was remarkable: 58 observations were reported in the first year, 20 of them with photographic evidence. In the evaluation, the observations were presented in more detail, e.g. also the regional distribution. In the summer of 2022, the Mouvement Ecologique published instructions for the construction of a tracking tunnel. This can be used to detect the presence of a dormouse without disturbing it. The instructions are available for download at [www.naturelo.meco.lu](http://www.naturelo.meco.lu).

### YES TO THE TREE SLICE SPONSORSHIPS

The "Tree Sponsorships" campaign was presented in the online seminar "Méi Gréngs an eise Stied an Dierfer - Den öffentleche Raum fir a mat de Bierger:innen naturno gestalten" and also brought to the attention of the municipalities through other channels by the Oekozenner Pafendall & Mouvement Ecologique. When the City of Luxembourg announced in March 2021 that it would make tree slice sponsorships possible, it was only logical that the Oekozenner Pafendall and the Mouvement Ecologique, together with the "Transition Uelzechtdall asbl" and "Canopé Production asbl", took up this possibility. On the campaign website, a collection of documents has also been compiled to help municipalities and interested citizens to implement/promote the project in their municipality. The Regional Mersch of the Mouvement Ecologique has already brought the project to the attention of its Council of Aldermen. to its council of aldermen. Contributions to the campaign reached 26,500 people in total and generated almost 2,000 interactions on Facebook and Instagram.







### NEW CLIMBING PLANTS IN THE PFAFFENTAHL

During the Oekofestival 2021, the Oeko-zenter and the Mouvement Ecologique set up a stand on the topic of greening buildings. Various climbing plant species were also presented here: Ivy, wild vine, honeysuckle, clematis and climbing rose. In the spring of 2022, these plants were transplanted in the vicinity of the Pafendall Ecology Centre and have since provided an even greater diversity of species in the immediate vicinity of the centre.

### ON THE ROAD WITH NATURE CONSERVATIONISTS ON 3 INSPIRING VISITS

In order to give interested members the opportunity to get to know the concrete challenges and practical work in the field of nature conservation, the Mouvement Ecologique 2022 organised three site visits with conservationists:

- "Concrete measures for the conservation of the hedge frog", with Frank Sowa, Biolog (Nature Conservation Syndicate SICONA)
- "Discover the diversity of species-rich grassland", with Claire Wolff, Landschaftsökologin (Nature Conservation Syndicate SICONA)
- „Honey bees in the forest - The Black Woodpecker as a carpenter from the bees", with Roger Dammé (Apiarist) and Liliane Burton.

### INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION - STOP DEFORESTATION

In 2022, the Mouvement Ecologique, in the framework of the international coalition of more than 100 organisations "Together4Forests", campaigned for a strong EU law on the sale of products linked to deforestation. The Mouvement Ecologique, in addition to its public relations work, also directly addressed the Luxembourg negotiators, Minister Claude Haagen, Minister Joëlle Welfring and Christophe Hansen, Member of the European Parliament and rapporteur on this dossier, and appealed to them to support an ambitious law. The commitment of over 100 NGOs was successful! After 2 years of negotiations, the Member States and the Parliament adopted the deforestation law on 6 December 2022.





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## Regional planning, mobility and housing:

### We are running behind growth ...

The problems "on the ground" intensified. Despite numerous welcome improvements in the mobility sector - especially the construction of the modern light rail system - many problems continue to increase. Urban sprawl has not been curbed, the housing problem is taking on dramatic proportions, and regional planning continues to be a wallflower, despite various efforts by the regional planning ministry. In all these areas, de facto positive innovations are being "eaten up" by growth. It must be possible for regional planning, housing and mobility policy to once again shape the country in a positive sense.

#### FOR COHERENT SETTLEMENT DEVELOPMENT AND MORE GREEN SPACES IN OUR LOCALITIES

Which new settlement makes sense? How can a settlement project be made more sustainable? What can attractive "more compact" and high-quality built

look like? How can attractive public spaces with quality of stay be created? How much "green" needs to be preserved or created where? These and other questions occupied the Mouvement Ecologique in a whole series of cases in various municipalities in the country during the year under review. In addition, together with the Oekozenner Pafendall,

very concrete suggestions are being drawn up, this mainly within the framework of the project "**Méi Gréngs an eise Stied an Uertschaften**" (for details of the campaign see chapter "Biodiversity").

The Mouvement Ecologique is also often approached by citizens who need help with **building and settlement projects in their community**. As a rule, the Mouvement Ecologique does not pursue these dossiers in detail. There are simply too many of them. The Mouvement Ecologique primarily advises those concerned, discusses the legal situation as far as possible legal situation and helps them to help themselves. In various dossiers, however, the Mouvement Ecologique takes an active role in various dossiers, especially especially when the dossier has particularly far-reaching consequences and there is an active regional or member active members in the community or region.





## "REGIONAL PLANNING: NEW TEETH FOR THE "TOOTHLESS TIGER!"

... as well as "Der Entwécklung weider hannendru lafen oder couragéiert politesch Weiche stelle fir d'Zukunft?" are the titles of the statements of the Mouvement Ecologique on the draft of the new guidelines for regional planning by the Minister of Regional Planning, Claude Turmes. In 2022, the draft of these **new guidelines was presented**. In the run-up the Mouvement Ecologique had several stimulating discussions with the Minister on the subject. The Mouvement Ecologique also took part in the events of the project "Luxembourg in transition". The aim of this project was to provide suggestions for the for the drafting of these guidelines.

The Mouvement Ecologique took a in great detail in a 20-page document on the new draft of the national planning programme (PDAT2023). This is because this programme is very important for the development of the country. Always can and should serve as a guideline for state and municipal planning, municipal planning. In fact, it should set the framework conditions for a more sustainable Luxembourg and more coherent planning. The Mouvement Ecologique welcomed the basic orientation of the plan, but also formulated a number of fundamental questions. For example, the following:

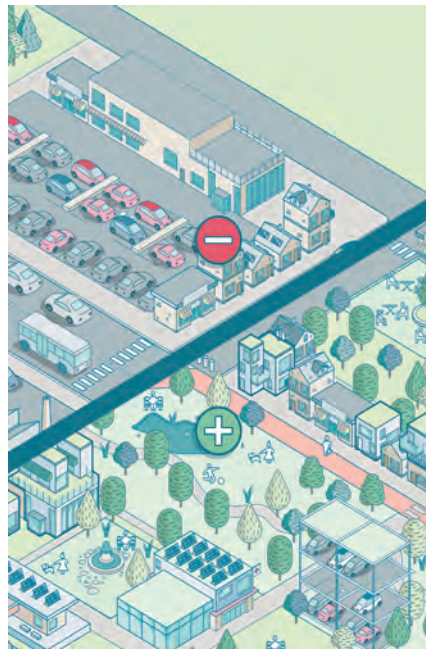
- From a "toothless tiger" to a political coordinating and steering role?!
- The attempt to get a grip on the consequences of unrestrained growth through regional planning: a fallacy!
- Mobility and regional planning: inextricably linked
- "Grande Région": from a virtual policy entity to more concrete content
- A reform of municipal finances and of the subsidy practices of ministries: indispensable from from a regional planning point of view!
- Strengthening the regional perspective through territorial cooperation
- An action programme for the revitalisation of urban and village centres
- Luxembourg needs a national debate on the challenges of regional planning

The detailed statement was presented to the general public and sent to numerous responsible actors. Positively, according to information from the Mouvement Ecologique, it was also included in the opinions of municipalities on the draft national planning directives.

## WHICH CITY FOR TOMORROW ?

With the title *"The example of Villeroy-Boch: Extreme densification at the expense of an attractive living environment?"*, the Mouvement Ecologique took a stand on the dossier

of the large settlement area of "Villeroy-Boch" in Rollingergrund as part of the public procedure. Among other things, the following weak points of the dossier were raised: lack of citizen participation, insufficient connection to the existing neighbourhoods of Rollingergrund and Mühlenbach (both from an urbanistic and a transport policy point of view), too much densification with too few public spaces, no attractive greening, neglect of cyclists and pedestrians... The criticism finally led to an interesting exchange with the city of Luxembourg. The city promised that important aspects - such as the creation of housing cooperatives etc. - would be considered in a further phase.





## HOUSING PROJECT IN MERSCH: UNIMAGINATIVE PLANNING AND DESTRUCTION OF VALUABLE BIOTOPES

In January 2022, Mouvement Ecologique and its Regional Miersch objected to the "Projet d'Aménagement Particulier (PAP) nouveau quartier " Rue Bouvart" in Mersch. This is due to the high quality of the area from a biodiversity point of view and the fact that hardly any efforts have been made to preserve essential natural elements. But also the settlement planning was quite unimaginative. In addition to the decision to build on this site at all, it was criticised that the proposed building project does not even attempt to preserve the existing deciduous trees, but simply provides for a standard/white-leaf development. However, the area is home to species whose habitat, according to EU law, may only be destroyed once a new equivalent habitat has been created on which these species have settled. The destruction of this area is therefore not yet a done deal.

## "MAKE ROOM" - LIVEABLE AND VIBRANT NEIGHBOURHOODS AND VILLAGES TO MEET!

The project "Make Room" consists of three vivid animated clips that show the transformation of three squares in Luxembourg cities in a journey through time: Place de Stalingrad in Esch-sur-Alzette; Hollerich entrance (Place St.Pierre et Paul) - Luxembourg City and "Stäreplaz" in Mersch. The clips convey how enriching it can be when public spaces are transformed into green places of encounter and togetherness - away from concrete and noise.

The visions in the films are not real plans, but plans, but they are meant to open the "head", to let us dream... for everything that could be possible. They are meant to inspire and whet our appetites so that we can set out to rethink our localities.

As part of the campaign, in addition to the three clips, a flyer and concrete demands to national In addition to the three clips, a flyer and concrete demands to national politics, to the municipalities and to the citizens who want to be part of the change were prepared and published, and presented at a press conference. The clips were viewed around 5,000 times (Facebook & Youtube). The contributions to the campaign reached a total of around 26,500 people and achieved almost 2,000 interactions on Facebook and Instagram.

## HISTORIC PRESERVATION: A LITTLE ON THE BACK BURNER

The topic of monument protection was somewhat neglected by the Mouvement Ecologique in 2022. However, there was some involvement in specific dossiers.

## MOBILITY: IT GOES ON AND THEN IT DOESN'T

There is no doubt that a lot is still happening in mobility policy: the expansion of the successful tram, the modernisation of the train infrastructure, the RGTR reform, etc. are important steps towards a more sustainable policy.

But the deficits are still obvious: the traffic calming of the N7 has still not taken place, not even the planning has been completed; the bypass of Hesperingen with its consequences for the natural environment is in full planning; the expansion of the bicycle lanes is progressing but nowhere near with the necessary vigour, etc.

In addition, mobility planning is lagging behind the demands created by economic growth. Moreover, good mobility planning requires much stronger national planning. However, our cities and towns are still primarily characterised by motorised private transport.

Thus, there is still a long way to go before we achieve sustainable mobility, which is also much more strongly sup-







ported by the municipalities, and the Mouvement Ecologique will continue to work towards this goal. For example, in the context of the discussions surrounding the municipal elections, it was decided that the Mouvement Ecologique will campaign for a generalised speed limit of 20 / 30 km/h in built-up areas.

### ALL ON BIKES 2022 REMAINS A GREAT SUCCESS

The 25th edition of the "Alles op de Vëlo" was also a great success. Thousands of cyclists responded to the call and were able to enjoy the popular Mamer Valley without any car traffic. This is also confirmed by the figures collected by the Ministry of Mobility. For example, 8,267 rides were counted at the Kopstal peak. This is about 700 more than in 2019 and even 2700 more than in 2018. Knowing that some cyclists were counted twice, this shows a positive trend in the popularity of the bicycle day over the past years. We are happy!



Most importantly, the mood and atmosphere continued to be very good.

### 2022: 1500 REPORTS OF PROBLEMATIC PLACES FOR THE BICYCLE!

Between August and October 2021, more than 1000 cyclists entered over 1500 problematic places and stretches as well as missing cycling routes on Vëloskaart.lu.

The aim of the "Vëloskaart": to encourage the political leaders of state and municipalities to deal with the reported problems and ideas and to implement improvements in the interest of cyclists.

The extremely numerous photos, films and comments vividly show how great the need for action is and that more and more people are calling for better and safer cycling infrastructures. The variety of suggestions opens the mind and sharpens the eye for the wide range of potential improvements. Many concrete details also allow those with political responsibility to make targeted improvements.

All problem messages were transferred unfiltered to veloskaart.lu. They are not demands that have been worked out in the Mouvement Ecologique.

2022, they were forwarded to state agen-

cies, municipalities, etc. in edited form. catalogue of demands - to state agencies, municipalities, etc. Several municipalities and also the Ministry of Infrastructure have announced that they will deal with the entries on Veloskaart.lu. A great success!

All entries can be found at: [www.veloskaart.lu](http://www.veloskaart.lu)

The motto remains: *"Together (further) pressure for better and safer and safe cycling infrastructure is important".*

General figures of the action:

- 305 images/video files were uploaded
- 837 problem spots were located
- 694 problematic routes were located
- 339 missing routes were located.

### "ALZINGEN-HESPERINGEN BYPASS": "AFTER BAD PLANNING, ANOTHER BYPASS AT THE EXPENSE OF THE NATURAL ENVIRONMENT?"

In April 2022, the Mouvement Ecologique objected to the planned construction of the Hesperingen bypass through the public procedure. This with the conviction that the project would not have the desired positive effects (also for the inhabitants), it is highly problematic from a transport policy point of view and would have a considerable impact on biodiversity and the landscape. The Mouvement Ecologique repeatedly referred to the Strategic Environmental Assessment of the Ministry of Environment, which showed the devastating effects of the construction on the road. In addition, the Mouvement Ecologique argued that it should no

longer be the case that one bad plan leads to other bad plans. For example, the extension of the Ban de Gasperich now bypasses Hesperingen..... Then one would find oneself in an endless loop. Furthermore, the conviction was expressed that alternatives had not been sufficiently investigated. Der Staat arbeitet weiter an diesem Projekt, der Mouvement Ecologique wird es jedoch sehr kritisch weiter begleiten und anderem auch im Bezug auf die Thematik der Kompensierungen. Stellt sich nämlich die Frage, ob der Eingriff in die Biodiversität effektiv kompensierbar ist.

### **AGAINST THE KÄERJENG BYPASS - MUST THE "BOBËSCH" BE DESTROYED FOR ANOTHER BYPASS?**

The Mouvement Ecologique and its Regional South have always opposed the Bascharage bypass.

In 2022, a forest particularly affected by the planned road came into focus: the "Bobësch". Part of the "Bobësch" was to make way for the "Käerjenger Contournement". A local citizens' initiative campaigned for the preservation of the forest. The Mouvement Ecologique, its Regional South, Greenpeace Luxembourg and natur&ëmwelt supported the initiative. This was especially the case in July 2022, when concrete felling work was pending. At that time, major felling could be prevented.

In this context, a visit to the forest compensation area "an den Aessen tëschent Zolwer an Éilereng" also took place in April 2022. Here, 30 years ago, a "new forest" was planted as compensation for the destruction caused by the Collectrice du Sud. But even after 30 years, no forest community has been able to develop here. This example shows: not all forest areas can be compensated.... This question also arises for the valuable area of the "Bobësch".

### **MEETING OF THE MÉCO NORDSTADT AND PROVELO WITH THE COUNCIL OF ALDERMEN OF DIEKIRCH**

On 28 January 2022, representatives of ProVelo and the Nordstad regional section of the Mouvement Ecologique met with the council of aldermen of the municipality of Diekirch. This meeting took place after the bicycle demonstration of 9 October 2021 at the request of the two organisations.

### **FROM THE CAR FESTIVAL, PEDELECS ... TO THE AIRPORT**

The other projects in which people were involved in the discussion and the participation were many and varied. On the internet portal [www.oekotopten.lu](http://www.oekotopten.lu), run by the Pafendall Ecocentre in cooperation with the Mouvement Ecologique, consumers can find concrete tips on buying a pedelec or an electric car, for example.

The issue of air transport was also on the agenda. The Mouvement Ecologique takes part in the - extremely rare - meetings of the state "commission aé-

roportuaire". The Mouvement Ecologique continues to campaign for the reduction of night flights, etc.

### **CYCLE TRACK PC15: AN IMPORTANT STEP BEGGEN-DOMMERLANGE FINALLY COMPLETED! - COMMITMENT PAYS OFF!**

For years, the Regionale has been campaigning for the construction of this separate cycle track, which is to run from the Russian embassy on the grounds of ArcelorMittal, along the railway line to Dommeldingen. Since the announcement of a corresponding agreement with Arcelor Mittal in February 2018 (!), nothing has happened for a long time. However, work started in autumn 2021 and the inauguration will take place at the end of March 2022. What takes a long time ... comes to a good end after all.





# Climate and energy: We need fundamental changes

**NOW!**

After massive floods in 2021, the year 2022 was characterised by a dramatic drought in the summer. Not only agriculture is feeling the effects of the climate crisis, but more and more citizens are experiencing the drastic changes in our environment. The most important realisation is: if a fundamental new course is set today, the effects of the climate catastrophe can still be contained to a tolerable level. But we must act now. It is therefore incumbent on politicians to take far-reaching measures to ensure that our livelihoods are not completely destroyed.

## **STRONG THROUGH INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION!**

Especially in the field of climate and energy, the Mouvement Ecologique is also very active at European and international level. Through the Climate Action Network Europe (CAN Europe) or the worldwide network of Friends of the Earth (FoE Europe and International) - of which the Mouvement Ecologique is the representative in Luxembourg - it is actively involved in numerous actions and campaigns, for example when it came to introducing stricter CO<sub>2</sub> targets for cars and vans or within the framework of the Energy Charter Treaty.



## **STILL PRO ACTIVE IN THE "NATIONAL ACTION COMMITTEE AGAINST NUCLEAR POWER"**

The Mouvement Ecologique, together with Greenpeace Luxembourg, continues to play a coordinating role in the "National Action Committee géint Atomkraaft". The main issue last year was the EU's planned inclusion of nuclear power in the EU taxonomy. (See next item)

## **NUCLEAR ENERGY IS NOT A SUSTAINABLE ALTERNATIVE IN THE CLIMATE CRISIS! LUXEMBOURG MUST CONTINUE TO OPPOSE IT WITH ALL ITS MIGHT**

In the run-up to the European Commission's decision to classify gas and nuclear energy as sustainable and thus include them in the European taxonomy, the national "Aktiounskomitee géint Atomkraaft", coordinated by Greenpeace Luxembourg and the Mouvement Ecologique (Nuclear energy is not and will not remain a sustainable solution! No to the inclusion of nuclear power and gas in the EU taxonomy!)

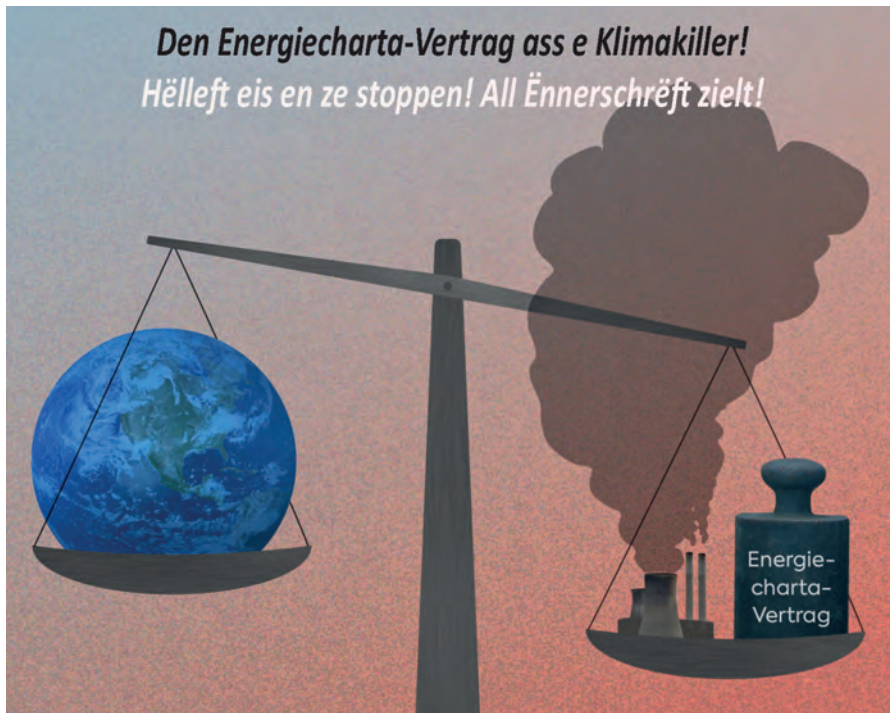
In this report, the Action Committee clearly against the inclusion of gas and nuclear energy in the taxonomy and thus in favour of a lawsuit already already considered with Austria against this decision! Austria against this decision! Nuclear power is too dangerous, too expensive and too slow to be available. Moreover Furthermore, it is vulnerable to climate change (keyword: cooling in summer cannot be guaranteed if the water level of rivers is too low) and delays the necessary socio-ecological transformation process!



## **APPEAL TO BANKS WITH LUXEMBOURG PARTICIPATION: GAS AND NUCLEAR ENERGY DO NOT BELONG IN THE GREEN FUND!**

After the EU Commission finally decided to include gas and nuclear energy in the European taxonomy, Greenpeace Luxembourg and the Mouvement Ecologique warned against it from a sustainability perspective in two joint letters:

- **In a letter to three Luxembourg banks (Spuerkeess, BIL, BGL BNP Paribas)** with state participation, both organisations called on the financial institutions to exclude gas and nuclear power from their supposedly green sustainability funds in the future. By continuing to include them, the banks are going against the official line of the Luxembourg government. The latter is in favour of a complete rejection of nuclear energy in all its forms as well as a non-expansion of the national gas infrastructure and has even joined Austria in a lawsuit against the EU decision.
- **In an open letter to Prime Minister Xavier Bettel, Finance Minister Yuri-ko Backes and Energy Minister Claude Turmes**, both organisations have also called on the Luxembourg government to stop giving tax advantages to investments in nuclear energy and gas, which are considered green by recent EU taxonomy decisions. Since 2021, Luxembourg-domiciled investment funds that invest all or part of their capital on the basis of the EU taxonomy enjoy a graduated tax advantage, the amount of which depends on the share of taxonomy-compliant investments in the overall portfolio.



**Den Energiecharta-Vertrag ass e Klimakiller!  
Hëlleft eis en ze stoppen! All Ënnerschrëft zielt!**



After the Chamber of Deputies had already demanded in a motion on tax policy on 14 July that this tax advantage not be extended beyond 2022, the government subsequently complied with the demands.

### **FINALLY OUT OF THE ENERGY CHARTER TREATY!**

At the end of last year, the decision on the modernisation of the treaty was to be taken at EU level. This is of particular importance because the treaty allows energy companies - through a parallel justice system - to punish states for climate-friendly laws that may threaten their profits. In the run-up to this, Mouvement Ecologique and Action Solidarité Tiers Monde called on the government - by analogy with other countries such as Italy, Spain, the Netherlands, Poland, Slovenia, Germany and France - to also withdraw from the treaty. After intensive discussions, also at government level, the government decided

on 18 November to withdraw from this controversial treaty. A decision of very great importance, the Mouvement Ecologique already committed itself to this step more than 30 years ago. Accordingly: an important success for the non-governmental organisations. Now it is essential that the European Union does the same. For both the EU member states and the EU are currently members of the "ECT".

### **NO TAX ADVANTAGE FOR CLIMATE-DAMAGING CARS IN COMPANY CARS!**

As part of the reform of company car taxation implemented in 2022, internal combustion vehicles will continue to be permitted as leased company cars during a transitional phase 2024-2025 and subsequently even beyond 2025.

In a statement, the Mouvement Ecologique argued that in a first phase vehicles with a certain CO<sub>2</sub> emission level should be completely excluded from the privilege of company car taxation and that from 2025 only electric vehicles should be granted the company car privilege! A demand that the government has not yet complied with.

The statement was even published in a special supplement of the members' magazine (*"Legislative project for the reform of leasing service cars: Substantial improvements in the sense of consistent climate protection and social justice required!"*) and forwarded to numerous stakeholders.





**BUILDING AND HOUSING:  
EXPANDING SOCIAL-ECOLOGICAL ASPECTS, NOT ABOLISHING THEM!**

Last year, previous provisions of the 2016 "climate bank" - the "aides aux prêts climatiques" - were amended. Although the actual goal of reducing bureaucratic hurdles for access to these important climate and social policy measures is certainly welcome, the text was characterised by the fact that social injustices are not sufficiently taken into account.

In this way, the all-important "zero interest rate" and direct capital support for financially weaker support for financially weaker households within the framework of the Climate Bank are even to be abolished.

The law now before us is perhaps a simplification of the procedures, but is socially and politically politically unacceptable. Accordingly, the Mouvement Ecologique took a has taken a detailed stand (among other things in a special special supplement to its members' magazine).



**ENERGY WEEKS: MAKING ENVIRONMENTALLY FRIENDLY BUILDING AND LIVING MORE EXCITING**

In 2022, Oekozer Pafendall and Mouvement Ecologique again organised the "Energy Weeks". From 30 June to 9 July, participants had the opportunity to visit new and renovated energy-efficient buildings and get advice and inspiration for their own projects. The programme

included two functional buildings and four single-family houses, including two new buildings and two renovations of old buildings. They were selected because they can serve as role models in terms of sustainability of building materials, renewable heating systems or even circular planning concepts.

The school building on the Howald attracted particularly great interest. The plus-energy building uses an ice storage system combined with solar collectors for heating and cooling, but other exciting projects were also visited. As usual, the Energy Weeks took place under the auspices of the Ministry of Housing, the Ministry of Energy and Spatial Development and the Ministry of the Environment.

**THE MOUVEMENT ECOLOGIQUE IN THE CLIMATE PLATFORM**

In accordance with the requirements of the new Climate Protection Act, a platform was established last year to accompany future climate protection policy. Representatives of the business community, the municipal sector, trade unions, social, ecological and development organisations are represented in this body .... The Mouvement Ecologique is also a member of this new platform, which met for the first time in the



middle of last October. At this meeting, a first exchange took place on the objectives and organisation of this body. The future will show what contribution this structure can make to the discussions and the new Climate and Energy Plan (NECP), the draft of which is to be adopted in June 2023.

## **PUSHING THE TRANSITION FORWARD IN THE HEAT - BECAUSE OF AND DESPITE THE RUSSIAN INVASION**

The particular challenge in the energy sector lies in the so-called "heat transition". A considerable share of Luxembourg's energy consumption is required to heat or cool private households. For example, it is stated that around 1.6 tonnes of greenhouse gases per capita would have been produced in 2021. This value is much higher than the European average: according to the EU, this was 733 kilograms per person in 2020.

For this reason, the Mouvement Ecologique, partly in partnership with other organisations, organised four events on the topic:

- **"Phasing out fossil energies: How do we ensure today the heat supply of our neighbourhoods tomorrow?":** Together with the Climate Alliance Lëtzebuerg, an online event was held to explain the challenges and various proposed solutions in the area of a future renewable heat supply in

existing buildings. From ice storage to local heating networks, examples from home and abroad with different technological alternatives were presented. Participants then had the opportunity to discuss these examples in more detail in a question/answer session. In conclusion, it could be said that there is no one solution, but that it can vary depending on the framework conditions.

- **"What are the requirements and possibilities for heat pumps in existing residential buildings?"** At the invitation of the Mouvement Ecologique, the Oekozenner Pafendall and the Climate Alliance Lëtzebuerg, the recognised expert Dr. Marek Miara and representatives of the Luxembourg Ministry of Energy gave a lecture on the hurdles, opportunities and areas of application of a heat pump. Due to, among other things, the climate crisis and the effects of the Ukraine war, interest in alternative heating technologies has increased massively. This phenomenon was also evident at the well-attended event. Basically, it can be said that heat pumps also serve their purpose in existing buildings and cannot be ruled out across the board.
- **Insulating and renovating old buildings properly:** During the online conference - at the invitation of the Mouvement Ecologique and the

Oekozenner Pafendall - the speaker Dr Dipl Ing Sebastian Latz explained a variety of aspects of interior insulation and went into the advantages of combining it with a heat pump and photovoltaics.

Ms Nina Weicherding from the "Climate Weicherding from "Klima-Agence" presented the state subsidy programme programme Klimabonus for energy-efficient renovations. Basically, it could be stated that one should not shy away from the challenges associated with interior insulation if exterior insulation is not possible in old buildings.

N.B: Almost all of our conferences are available via our Youtube channel (@mouveco) or our website [www.meco.lu](http://www.meco.lu)!

## **WHAT ENERGY SUPPLY IN LUXEMBOURG - CONSEQUENCES OF THE UKRAINIAN WAR**

*"It's not just about gas!": the The Ukraine War and the Energy Transition ...* was the title of an event with Dr Felix Matthes from the Oeko-Institut. According to the speaker, it is necessary to build resilience. According to Matthes, it should never happen again that a whole system is thrown out of kilter by the failure of a supply carrier. This must be avoided through the necessary diversification of supply sources. After the well-attended conference, a round table discussion took place in the presence of the Minister of Energy, C. Turmes, and R. Winkin, representative of the Federation of Industrialists (FEDIL). As this conference was organised at fairly short notice after Russia's invasion of Ukraine, it met with particularly lively interest. The fact that a political exchange with the top-class speaker and representatives from business and politics was possible was also positively excluded.





## REMOVING OBSTACLES TO THE EXPANSION OF SOLAR ENERGY AND SEIZING OPPORTUNITIES!



In a joint meeting with Energy Minister Claude Turmes, the Mouvement Ecologique and Eurosolar discussed the opportunities and obstacles in the expansion of solar energy. Focal points were, among others, the costs of connecting a system to the grid, the utilisation of public roof areas, the economic viability of so-called "ombrières" and much more. During the discussion with the Energy Minister, a number of points were also identified which, on the initiative of the Minister, could be discussed in a further exchange together with the grid operator Creos. These included, for example, problems that arise when replacing older systems and the increasing demand for solar energy. The exchange was extremely positive, some innovations have already been initiated, some more are still waiting.

## FREE-STANDING SOLAR INSTALLATIONS: A CONSTRUCTIVE EXCHANGE WITH ENERGY MINISTER CLAUDE TURMES

The Mouvement Ecologique has taken a position on the installation of solar plants on agricultural land several times in the past. In the view of the Mouvement Ecologique, first and foremost everything must be done to ensure that priority is given to installations on already sealed surfaces as well as roofs before the landscape is "built up". Last year, however, tenders for solar plants on open space were published by the Ministry of Energy. These are to serve as pilot projects for further installati-

ons. In an exchange, the Mouvement Ecologique had the opportunity to present its suggestions in the run-up to the creation of these tenders (introduction of taboo zones on which no installations may be built due to biodiversity protection,...). These were subsequently taken up and implemented in numerous aspects by the Energy Minister, which is to be welcomed. It is now necessary to monitor the pilot plants so that conclusions and possible improvements can be drawn for the regulations of further plants.

## MORE SOLAR INSTALLATIONS ON PUBLIC ROOFS: THE MOUVEMENT ECOLOGIQUE IN EXCHANGE WITH THE ADMINISTRATION DES BÂTIMENTS PUBLICS

After repeatedly reading in the press that only four percent of public roofs were occupied with PV systems and that a large potential had not yet been exhausted, the Mouvement Ecologique asked for a meeting with the building administration. According to their information, only 4 % of public buildings have been occupied so far, but this represents 14 % of the available space. Another 15 % are to follow soon. In general, the representatives of the administration are aware of the urgency of action and are trying to push the expansion of solar energy by all means, but are hindered by a lack of staff. The administration also pointed out that it always sets high ecological and energy standards for new buildings and plans solar systems in combination with

green roofs. These aspects are also taken into account in the general renovation of buildings.



# De Méco am Klima-Bündnis Lëtzebuerg 2022

Due to developments in recent years both at national level (e.g. Climate Pact 2.0) and internationally (KB Charter of Wels), the convention between municipalities and coordination NGOs, Mouvement Ecologique and ASTM was thoroughly revised in 2022 and unanimously adopted at the plenary meeting of Climate Alliance Luxembourg in November. At the same time, a process was decided to raise the profile of the Climate Alliance in the national context, which will take place in 2023. In addition to these structural considerations and work, the following projects, among others, were carried out within the framework of the environmental coordination of Climate Alliance Luxembourg:



## CAIC 2022

The international annual meeting of the European Climate Alliance was organised in 2022 with the active support of the municipality of Hesperingen. Under the motto "Unleashing Local Potential - Advancing Global Transition", workshops and discussion panels were organised over 2 days. Around 150 representatives from many European countries took part on site, and another 200 connected online.

## COMMUNAL CLIMATE CHECK

Municipalities face the challenge of assessing the climate relevance of individual projects and then improving them. The climate impact assessment, which originated from a German project, was adapted to Luxembourg in the first half of 2021 and tested by some municipalities, but fell short of expectations as it did not provide users with enough climate-friendly alternatives. Therefore, the tool was extended in 2022 to provide more guidance on how to make a municipal project more climate-friendly.

## ENERGY CARAVAN

In order to achieve the sectoral targets of the national integrated energy and climate plan, the renovation rate of existing buildings in Luxembourg must be increased from less than 1 % today to at least 3 %. Internationally, the model of the energy caravan for increasing the renovation rate has proven itself at the municipal level. The principle of the Energy Caravan is to make it as easy as possible for citizens to access free initial energy advice by not requiring



Foto: ©Laurent Blum

them to visit the local energy authority, but instead having it come directly to their homes after prior notification. While the contacting of the citizens and the documentation within the framework of the project is accompanied by Climate Alliance Luxembourg, the active energy counselling on site is carried out by the national counselling centre "Klima-Agence", which already provides the counselling infopoint in the municipalities.

## ALTERNATIVES TO FOSSIL HEAT

In view of the increasing urgency of the topic of heating systems from renewable energy sources, Climate Alliance Luxembourg, together with the Mouvement Ecologique, organised a first online workshop on the topic "Renewable heat sources". The topic of heat pumps in existing buildings was also brought closer to many interested parties by means of an online seminar.





## PV IN THE COMMUNITY

### - Campaign: Solar parking

With regard to the sustainable development of our society, which takes into account the increasing scarcity of land in Luxembourg, it is essential to use settlement space and already sealed areas as efficiently as possible in the future. Sealed areas as efficiently and multifunctionally as possible and multifunctional in terms of climate protection and thus to preserve remaining natural and agricultural areas in the interest of people and nature.

Car parks are a particularly critical form of critical form of use of the space, as they are often laid out over a large area in order to park an object that is not in use for more than 90 % of the day. By covering public parking spaces in the municipality with photovoltaic systems, an active use in the form of energy production could be added to this passive use as a parking space. In addition, community citizens can be actively involved in the project through the energy cooperative model.

Climate Alliance Luxembourg has supported and accompanied the municipalities in different phases of the project.

### - Campaign: Mobilisation of roof areas

In order to accelerate the expansion of photovoltaic communities and to achieve emission reduction targets, it is essential to install photovoltaic systems not only on municipal roofs, but also on the roofs of businesses and private individuals with photovoltaic systems. This does not necessarily have to be done by the roof owners themselves, but can also be done by energy cooperatives to which the roofs are made available for the operation of a PV system. roofs for the operation of a PV system.

Within the framework of the "Mobilisation of roof area" campaign, still unused potential for photovoltaic use and strategies and incentives were identified in order to increasingly encourage businesses and private individuals to make roof areas available for photovoltaic use.



## SOIL PROTECTION IS CLIMATE PROTECTION

In 2022, Climate Alliance Luxembourg, in cooperation with CELL, again offered a series of workshops for amateur gardeners and for animators / project leaders of community gardens. Thematically, the focus was again on the careful use of soil resources (crop rotation, soil cultivation, compost, etc.), compost, etc.). In addition, a 2-day course "Introduction to Permaculture" was offered.

## SAFE ON THE BIKE - SAFE WAY TO SCHOOL

52% of municipal CO<sub>2</sub> emissions in Luxembourg are due to transport. It is therefore of key interest for municipalities to promote soft mobility in the community and contribute to decarbonisation and road safety. A key issue in this endeavour is the possibility for children to cycle to school every day.



In 2022, Climate Alliance Luxembourg, together with "ProVelo.lu" and the municipality of Strassen, launched a pilot project that included cycling courses, optimisation of school routes and two-week accompaniment of children on their way to school by bicycle.

## TOUR DU DUERF 2022

In 74 municipalities and regions, over 1000 cyclists (including 77 councillors) cycled around 202,000 kilometres in 2022. (including 77 local councillors) covered 202,000 kilometres by bicycle, which represents a saving of 31 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> compared to the same distance by car. "TOUR du DUERF" was organised again in 2022 in cooperation with the Ministry of Mobility.

## MUNICIPAL CO<sub>2</sub> BALANCING

Within the framework of the Climate Pact for Luxembourg Municipalities, the Climate Alliance Luxembourg, with the help of the software ECOSpeed software, has drawn up so-called municipal CO<sub>2</sub> start balances for all municipalities in the country. These are partly based on national average energy consumption of households and businesses. These initial balances can then be refined by the municipalities, e.g. with real municipal consumption and the municipal energy mix.

# Regional Miersch an Ëmgéigend

At Mersch station, a new multi-storey car park was built in 2022, which is not expected to be completed until summer 2023, as well as a new bus station with a roof over the bus platforms. When we asked why the CFL had not included **solar panels** for the bus platform roofing, we received a friendly explanation from the CFL General Manager, Mr Marc Wengler. He pointed out that the CFL had already designed the roof of the adjacent multi-storey car park with solar panels, which of course makes a lot of sense. The Y-shaped structure structure of the roof, however, is not well suited for solar panels. They get too dirty due to the high level of dust caused by the traffic. Also from the point of view of the users: inside, it can only be confirmed that a roof with a Y shape would have provided better protection against wind and rain. But why then was this Y shape chosen? The use of roof surfaces for electricity generation will become increasingly important in the future.

On 17 July 2022 we celebrated the 25th edition of **"Alles op de Vëlo"**. On the occasion of this anniversary, our regional office distributed muffins sponsored by members to the cyclists. Despite the more than 5,000 participants, the afternoon was rather slow compared to the morning. sluggish. Not many cyclists stopped at our stand in the afternoon.

And unfortunately, even after 25 years of "Alles op der Velo Mamer- Miersch", there is still **no continuous cycle path from Mersch to Mamer through the Mamer valley**, despite all efforts.

We hope that it will not take another 25 years for the local authorities to **realise that a continuous cycle path should**



**also be built along the N7.** In all towns and villages in Luxembourg, cycle paths should be built on an equal footing with motorways.

On the occasion of a meeting with the community leaders of the municipality of Municipality on 4 April 2022, where we were also accompanied by Michelle Schaltz and Christophe Murroccu of the national Mouvement Ecologique, other topics were discussed besides the organisation of the "Alles op de Vëlo Mamer-Miersch".

For example, the **design and maintenance of the roadsides** in the municipality of Mersch. Near-natural roadsides with native flowering plants can have a great biodiversity, which additionally represent a valuable habitat for many insects and animals. However, the municipality seems to prefer to stick to its best practice.

The project of the Mouvement Ecologique to **sponsor tree discs** was also presented. There was a lot of interest and support here. On a page in the "Gemegebuet" the municipality will advertise for "Bamscheiwepatenschaften". With our support and advice, as well as internal reviews by the technical service of the municipality, the project will be presented to the population in spring 2023.

A chicken farm is soon to be built on the territory of the community. We have written to try to persuade the future operators of the farm to give the **chicken farm** an ecological orientation.

Producing organic chicken in Luxembourg would not only be good for the animals and the environment, but also for those who consume the chicken.

This year, for the first time, our Regionale took part in the **"Soirée de Bienvenue"** for the newly arrived residents of the municipality of Mersch. residents of the municipality of Mersch. We took the opportunity to present the Mouvement Ecologique and are happy that our small committee has slightly increased again in 2022.



## CONTACT

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## Regional Uelzechtdall

In 2022, the activities of the Uelzechtdall Region were at a standstill, partly in the wake of the Covid pandemic..

### BICYCLE LIST BEGGEN-DOMMELDINGEN FINALLY COMPLETED

For years, the Regionale has been campaigning for the construction of this separate cycle track, which is to run from the Russian embassy on the grounds of ArcelorMittal, along the railway line to Dommeldingen. Since the announcement of a corresponding agreement with ArcelorMittal in February 2018 (!), nothing has happened for a long time. However, work started in autumn 2021 and the inauguration will take place at the end of March 2022. What takes a long time ... comes to a good end after all.

### NEW HIGH VOLTAGE LINE IN THE UELZECHTDALL

The planning of a new high-voltage line and a new transformer station by the energy supplier Creos is causing a lot of discussion (and not only) in the Alzette Valley. The route, as it is currently under discussion, would, among other things, represent a considerable encroachment on the landscape of the entire Alzette valley and the western plateau.

The dossier is supported at national level by the Mouvement Ecologique in consultation with the region. In July 2020, the Mouvement Ecologique has already planned a Online event on the topic organised. The Mouvement Ecologique also submitted its comments as part of the public consultation on the long-term strategy for electricity supply in Luxembourg, in Luxembourg. Representatives of the Regionale took part in the CREOS events on the different different route options.

Following the comments of the municipalities on the preliminary draft of the route, the draft will now be revised by CREOS and then enter the public proce-

cedure. The Regionale will become active in this process.

### TRAFFIC CALMING ON THE N7

In July 2015 (!), the Uelzechtdall Regional Council published concrete proposals under the title "D'Nordstrooss geet op- d'Veersprieche fir den Uelzechtdall mussen och elo ëmgesat ginn!" Various selective improvements have been made in the meantime, but one central measure has not yet been tackled locally: the traffic calming and redesign of the N7, which cuts through all Uelzechtdall communities. In the meantime, all communities except one (sic) have agreed to the revised plans. According to information from the Ministry of Transport and the Road Administration respectively, they are now at an advanced stage. The regional had proposed to the ministry to present the definitive plans and timing to the public in mid-2022. However, as the planning was not fully completed at that time, this presentation was suspended. It is to be hoped that the implementation will now start in concrete terms in the new legislative period...

### FROM RECYCLING CENTRES TO RESOURCE CENTRES

The adoption of the reform of the legislation on the waste management in July 2022 foresees, among other things, the further development of the classical cling centres into resource centres. Among other things, this raises the question of inter-municipal cooperation, e.g. in the Alzette Valley. Progress in this important dossier can probably only be expected after the municipal elections in June 2023.

## CONTACT

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## Regional Syrdall

The Syrdall Regional Council is currently taking it easy and gathering new strength for further activities. However, it continues to follow the developments in its region. We would be pleased to hear from anyone who is interested in getting involved and helping to initiate new activities.

## CONTACT

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# Regional Stad Lëtzebuerg

The objection of the Mouvement Ecologique and the Regionale Stad Lëtzebuerg in the context of the public procedure on the amendments to the PAP "Villeroy-Boch" attracted more attention.

The City of Luxembourg has indeed presented its plans for the design of this 8.5 ha area in the public procedure. The analysis of the Mouvement Ecologique is clear: a future-oriented urban development looks different.

Lack of citizen participation, insufficient connection to the existing neighbourhoods of Rollingergrund and Mühlenbach, too much densification with too few public spaces, no attractive green spaces, greening, insufficient consideration for cyclists consideration for cyclists and pedestrians, .... These keywords characterise the planning of the City of Luxembourg for the "Villeroy-Boch" area.

Apparently, some of the Mouvement Ecologique's suggestions have been taken up in the further planning. One can be curious.

Regionale was pleased to see the **completion of the Beggen-Dommeldingen section of the PC15 cycle path**, a long-cherished wish. This new cycle path will enable the residents of these districts to reach the city centre faster, more safely and without much effort.

The **Oekofest** in Pafendall gave the members of the Regionale the opportunity to meet again and exchange ideas.

At the beginning of June, on the initiative of "ProVelo", a **big manifestation took place in Luxembourg City**, to which the Mouvement Ecologique had also invited. Many members of the Regionale got on their bikes to take part in the cycling tour. The aim was to promote the right conditions for cycling. This was done on a national level as well as in the municipalities.

Members of the Regionale took part in the meetings organised at the Ecocentre in which the **demands of the Mouvement Ecologique concerning the local elections** were elaborated. were worked out.



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# Regional Süden

## OBJECTION TO THE EXPANSION OF THE KRONOSPAN COMPANY

In principle, the Mouvement Ecologique supports the establishment / expansion of industrial enterprises in suitable commercial zones. In the case of the application for the expansion of the Kronoplant in "Gadderscheier" (Sarnem municipality) (municipality of Sarnem) we pointed out, however, that the company KRONOSPAN had repeatedly failed to comply with environmental regulations in the past and promised improvement measures had been delayed or not implemented at all. If the factory is expanded, a substantial increase in emissions such as dust, odour and noise can certainly be expected. The lack of a traffic study was also study was criticised, which is absolutely necessary here, since a large part of the transport to and from the plant is planned to be done by lorries. At this point, we therefore spoke out against a plant expansion and proposed a two-phase approach:

- implement all necessary measures to significantly improve the environmental situation of the existing plant.
- to grant permission to expand the plant under strict conditions only after checking the effectiveness of the improvement measures.
- 

## CYCLING TOUR AND EXCHANGE ESCH-ALZETTE

In the month of June, we invited the members of Esch to a bicycle tour followed by an exchange to get an idea of the bicycle infrastructure in (and around) Esch. About 20 people accepted the invitation. The following questions were raised: the car still occupies a central place in mobility planning, people are ready for the bicycle turnaround, but politicians are not, the network of cycle paths must be complete, the Alzettestraße pedestrian zone must be reopened for cycling, safe school cycle paths must be established, etc. It was also suggested to exchange ideas with other associations such as Velorution, Esch Biken, ProVelo. Furthermore, it was suggested to ask the Esch Council of Aldermen by letter to present the mobility concept to us, which has not yet been made public. Unfortunately this request was unanswered.

## BOBI STAYS! PROTEST ACTIONS BECAUSE OF THE KÄERJENGER BYPASS PROJECT

Throughout the year, actions were planned together with BIGS (Biergerinitiativ Gemeng Suessem), natur&ëmwelt, Suessem and YFC (Youth for climate). The aim is to point out the devastating consequences for nature that would occur if the planned variant of the Käerjeng bypass were to be built.

The forest tour was well attended, and information was provided on the compensation measures that are to be implemented in the forest. measures that were carried out 30 years ago in connection with the construction of the "Collectrice du Sud". Roger Schauls (a big thank you to Rosch, who was omnipresent throughout the year and was able to explain complex interrelationships with his expert knowledge) pointed out (unmistakable) unequivocally pointed out the desolate condition of this forest area. He pointed out that it would take another 100 years for a new plantation to reach the quality of an "old" forest! would be achieved! The message to the politicians was unmistakable: the destruction of an old forest in times of climate crisis is unjustifiable! We were positively surprised by the spontaneous forest occupation action of young activists in July, who demanded that the forests be better protected and that the plans for a bypass be abandoned. It is very commendable when young people It is very commendable when young people are concerned about their future and take action. Keep it up! "Bobi stays"!



## CONTACT

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## Regional Mëllerdall

- Since 2017, the Regionale has been represented in the "**Commission Consultative of the Mëllerdall Geo- and Nature Park**". The idea of the Mëllerdall Nature Park has been supported in word and deed by Mecu Mëllerdall since the first phase of its creation (or before) (brochure produced in 2005 "E Naturpark am Mëllerdall? Eng nei Chance fir d'Regioun"). In 2022, the representative of the Regionale regularly attended the meetings.
- In addition, the Regionale is represented on the board of the **Leader+ regional group Mëllerdall** and participates in the regular meetings.
- The president of the Regionale is a representative in the COPIL of the Natura 2000 area Mëllerdall.
- A member of the Regionale is actively involved in **the Mëllerdall energy cooperative**. The aim of the cooperative is the development and concrete implementation of projects in the field of renewable energy. The initiative was launched by the Mëllerdall Nature & Geopark as part of the European LIFE-ZENAPA project. Thanks to the active participation of the citizens, several photovoltaic plants have already been realised and connected to the electricity grid.
- Participation in **various activities and meetings** organised centrally by the Mouvement Ecologique was also a matter of course. In particular, municipalities and citizens were made aware of and informed about the issue of gravel gardens.
- Various members of the Regionale also participate in different municipal commissions and working groups within their respective municipality on topics such as climate team, energy, etc.

New possible projects were discussed and will be developed in 2023. In 2023, we will reposition ourselves with new with new members in the Regionale.

### CONTACT

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## Regional Nordstad

After the Regionale had already dealt with the improvement of bicycle paths in 2021, **bicycle transport infrastructures** as well as **mobility** have also been central topics in 2022. On 9 March 2022, the bicycle network in Ettelbrück and the planned **construction of the "Nordstad-Lycée"** were discussed during a meeting. In April, together with "Provelo", we had a meeting with Mr Marc Ries of the Directorate of the Road Administration Diekirch. The topic was the **guideline for the development of the Nordstad** until 2035 concerning mobility and especially the bicycle infrastructures in the Nordstad. stad (such as the bicycle express expressway between Diekirch and Ettelbrück) as well as the problematic traffic areas for cyclists in the villages. As part of the "Méi Gréngs an eise Stied an Dierfer" campaign, a guid-

ed tour was organised on 14 May. 14 May, a guided tour was organised with Eike Jablonski and Laurent Stork of the **Arboretum in Ettelbrück** in cooperation with the "Pafendall", which met with particularly lively interest. The **General Assembly** of the "Nordstad" Region was held in Ettelbrück on 7 June. Afterwards, we participated in the presentation of the "Plan national de mobilité 2035 fir all Biberger" by Minister Bausch at CAPE. On 26 September we had a meeting with Chantal Hermes from the "**Service des Bâtisses et de l'Urbanisme**" of the municipality of Ettelbruck. We had asked for this meeting to discuss concrete safety problems for cyclists in Ettelbruck. At we were informed that the municipality of Ettelbruck was not responsible for the area of the railway bus stops. However, we were able to

discuss many other topics, such as speed 30 zones, cycle paths and our suggestions for better cycling routes and our suggestions for better signs for cyclists signs for cyclists: inside. We also expressed our We also expressed our concern to preserve the street trees in front of the Ettelbrueck hospital.

### CONTACT

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Lieweg, kritesch, engagéiert!

# Member sinn am Mouvement Ecologique



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\* Muß gemäß dem Gesetz von 1928 betreffend Vereinigungen ohne Gewinnzweck nachgefragt werden  
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