



ELECTORAL PROGRAM for Biissen 2023-2029

ÄR LEIT FIR BIISSEN

Sech Wuelfillen, sech mat eiser schéiner Gemeng identifizéiere wëllen, sech sécher fillen an informéiert sinn, Wäitsiichtegkeet a nohalteg plangen, dëst si nëmmen e puer Aspekter, déi der Équipe vun **ÄR LEIT FIR BIISSEN** wichteg sinn.



ÄR
LEIT
FIR
BIISSEN



LËSCHT 5
11. June



ÄR LEIT FIR BIISSEN



**DAVID
VIAGGI**



**CINDY
BARROS DINIS**



**ROGER
SAURFELD**



**LOÏC
BRUNE**



**KEVIN
ENGLEBERT**

ÄR
LEIT
FIR
BIISSEN



**JOE
GEISEN**



**BÉATRICE
HORMANS-KABERS**



**JOSEPH
KOECHER**



**GEORGES
LUCIUS**



**MARCO
STACCHIOTTI**



**SÉBASTIEN
STEFFES**

#MAT IECH, FIR IECH

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Since October 2019, Är Leit fir Biissen and two independent members have formed the new majority on the municipal council. Mayor David Viaggi, along with his aldermen Roger Saurfeld and Cindy Barros Dinis, and councillors Kevin Englebert, Georges Lucius, Loïc Brune, and Paulo Machado, have not hesitated to take on challenges and set new priorities for local politics. It was very important to us to put the residents of Bissen back at the center of discussions, unlike in the past where too much emphasis was placed on the growth of the industrial zone.

Feeling comfortable and being able to identify with a municipality where it is good to live, feeling safe, and staying informed with a long-term and sustainable perspective are just a few of the important points that we systematically insert into our decision-making process. We are a young and dynamic team that operates harmoniously and is not afraid to undertake new projects. For far too long, the municipality has not undertaken future-oriented projects and has contented itself with managing its assets as a priority.

Är Leit have prioritized various areas in recent years, including drinking water supply, education, child care, social housing, traffic issues, and information and communication. In these areas and many others, we have taken initiatives and implemented them. You will find a summary of all our projects undertaken in recent years in our activity report, which we warmly recommend you to read.

On June 11, the Är Leit team is running for re-election. Together with new competent and committed candidates, we ask you to once again place your trust in us, so that we can have the time to carry out all of our projects, many of which are already planned. To not lose any votes, it is important to either place your cross on list 5 or distribute your 11 possible crosses to the candidates on the Är Leit list.

In the coming pages, you can read about the areas where it will be particularly important for us to focus in the coming years, to realize or improve projects and lay the foundation for making the municipality of Bissen ready for 2030.

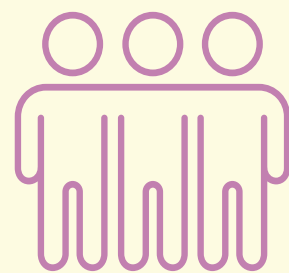
ÄR LEIT FIR BIISSEN MAT IECH, FIR IECH





1. Social commitment, family, education and youth

Är Leit fir Biissen are committed to a fair society. **“Inclusion for everyone, everywhere”** is a concept by which everyone should have the opportunity to shape their lives according to their ideas and needs, such as actively and without constraints contributing to all areas of society. Inclusion can be experienced in all areas of daily life, whether in sports or culture, during leisure time, public transport, school, or work. D’Inklusioun wëlle mir och déi nächst 6 Joer, bei der Planung an der Ëmsetzung vun eise Projeten ëmmer am Hannerkapp hunn, a mat berücksichtegen.



For the next 6 years, we want to continue to pay special attention to inclusion in the development and implementation of our projects.

People with disabilities must be able to benefit from a secure place in our society and must not face isolation and social marginalization. To achieve this, part of the public infrastructure, roads, sidewalks, pedestrian crossings, or bus stops will need to be adapted within our municipality. Here are some examples of planned points that will be modified in the coming months:

- The modification work on our school, our new town hall, and the new communal workshop will allow for better inclusion after their completion.
- “Confort Wanderwee” or “comfortable hiking” is a hiking trail accessible to people with reduced mobility. This trail will be located on the “an der Bonnert” site. It will be one of only seven such paths in the Grand Duchy so far. The next step in this project will be adequate signage.

- Inclusion among children: It is very important to us that within childcare facilities, children’s groups are not separated. We will provide the necessary financial means so that these children can stay in their group while guaranteeing them specific care. Furthermore, in the future, our sports coordinator will propose an offer to promote the mobility and motor skills of these children.

Since **affordable housing** has been neglected for years in our municipality, we have decided to convert the Grand-Rue neighborhood into a project of **affordable housing and housing for young people**. The communal life must also benefit from added value through small shops.

After the acquisition of the necessary land that we have undertaken, our mission is now to finalize the PAP, which will allow this project to be successfully completed. In this project, housing for young people and housing

for single parents whose situation does not allow them to find housing on the normal market will be created. We will strive to work in collaboration with the social office of Mersch and with the GLS (Social Rental Management) in managing these accommodations. The current council of aldermen has not only initiated this project but is also its founding member. We are committed to this social cause in the years to come.

Over the next few years, we want to continue to have a big heart for a good cause.

A large number of associations that have committed to a good cause have been supported and promoted by the municipality over the past 4 years, to encourage people to participate. This was particularly noticeable at events such as the "Biisser Rallye," the solidarity action for Ukraine, or the Eurovision evening.

We also show solidarity towards war refugees coming from Ukraine whom we have accommodated in reception structures. We provide them with a fixed home until they can safely return to the country they fled.

We want to actively **promote living together** through new offers, where the need exists. Whether it is for young mothers or parents who would like to meet and exchange ideas within a "Krabbelgrupp," or to include our inhabitants who do not speak Luxembourgish by enabling them to create contacts more easily and to be better informed about what is happening in the municipality.

We also attach particular importance to **providing families with a place** where they can spend quality time with their children. Specifically, we want to design a modernized and **enlarged playground** for the village center on the "am Frouner".

After the introduction of the Children's Council in recent years, which has already proposed its first projects, we will also create an **office for children**. Its goal is to encourage them to actively integrate into communal activities. As part of this effort, we will provide a platform in the communal newspaper "Klautjen" as well as on our various media channels.

We want to extend the right to speak to all our residents. The purpose of the "Biergerrot" or **citizen convention** is to allow all residents to become more actively involved in politics, to meet and propose projects, discuss them and develop them.

The participatory budget will also be an interesting means by which everyone can conceive and propose projects. These projects will then be analyzed, and if it turns out that they have a certain interest and are feasible, they will be presented to the residents who can then deliberate on them. If the project is approved, it can be realized.

We also want to promote spontaneous **neighborly assistance**, thereby strengthening cohesion and solidarity among residents. One possibility in this regard could be the "Holper App" network.



One of the particularly interesting participatory projects for our residents who do not have sufficient space to create their own garden is the creation of a **communal garden for Bissen**. To do this, we will make a large communal plot available, where ecological gardening can be practiced. One possible partner for this project could be CELL asbl.

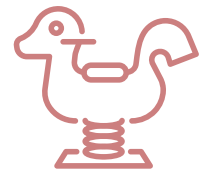
Our children and adolescents must continue to feel good in Bissen in the future, benefiting from ideal support as well as optimal infrastructure and services. This is why we would like to highlight certain points that we would like to address in the future:

Laying the groundwork for the creation of the **Bissen school campus** and realizing the first phases of the project. Thus, the early childhood and cycle 1 with the "maison relais" (cycle 1) will be extended around the current town hall. Where the communal administration is currently located, a new kitchen with a dining area must be created. In the same location, school health services can benefit from suitable premises, as well as meeting rooms for the administrative tasks of the "maison relais".

To shorten travel times, cycles 2 to 4 and the "maison relais" (cycles 2-4) will be grouped together in the primary school. The new floor of the primary school will provide an additional 5 classrooms. This project has already been approved. In addition, conformity measures will be carried out on the existing parts of the building, as well as the creation of a new entrance hall with access for people with reduced mobility (PRM). The yellow part of the building can subsequently be used by the "maison relais" to temporarily provide the necessary operational capacities. Only in a subsequent phase should a new "maison relais" be created

on the so-called "klénge Mies" site, allowing exclusive use of the school for educational purposes. A study that we have commissioned highlights that over the next 6 years, we will need to plan for the acquisition of necessary land as well as work on the necessary plans. The actual construction of the new infrastructure planned for this site will be necessary no earlier than the period between 2030 and 2035.

The rapid and temporary **expansion** of the number of available **places** in our **nurseries** is a priority. In autumn 2023, an additional 50 places must become available. This situation will allow us to expand the site around the current nursery. Certain procedures are still necessary before we can redesign and expand this building. In autumn 2023, new **"pédibus" lines** must be opened, completing this sustainable and healthy means of transportation.



For our youth as well as for all our adults who have remained young, we want to introduce a **"fun and action park"**. We also won't forget the realization of a **pumptrack** for all our bike enthusiasts. We want to build the latter at the former football field at the end of Rue des Moulins, right next to the bike path.





2. Mobility and Infrastructure

Even though we already have a Bummelbus service (a kind of on-demand bus), we want to offer an additional service by introducing a citybus. This should establish a synergy between school transportation, bus for associations, shuttle for the industrial zone, and of course benefit residents for any kind of short-distance trips.

Mobility is one of the key topics when engaging in communal politics. Here, we clearly distinguish between soft mobility, public mobility, and private transportation. As municipal officials, we have developed a "Mobility Management" plan for our ZAC over the past 18 months. This benefits not only local businesses, but the entire community.



Here are some examples of projects that we want to realize in the coming months and years:

Shared mobility

- Implement the CFL Flex system
- Create a carpooling app for the Bissen site.
- A rental system for scooters and bicycles based on the "last mile" idea, to facilitate short trips within the municipality.

Parking space

More parking spaces, fewer cars in the neighborhoods thanks to parking hubs. In the future, we want to remove professional vehicles such as vans from the neighborhoods. These vehicles can benefit from large shared parking lots (hubs). The purpose of these hubs is, on the one hand, to create covered parking lots in the ZAC to provide parking spaces for businesses, but also to offer our residents the necessary parking spaces for vehicles that do not have to park in the center of the village.

In the center of the village, we want to create a covered

parking lot at the "am Frouner" site in the same location as the current parking lot, thus doubling or even tripling the capacity of this parking lot.

Soft mobility

In addition to the communal pedestrian and cycling network that we will continue to optimize, we will provide a direct connection between PC 12 (Bissen) and PC 15 (Pettingen/Mersch) by providing the necessary land to the state for the construction of a new bike path. Also, the PC 12 towards Boevange-Attert will have to be extended to pass through the old railway line (Prince Henri). The necessary negotiations and land acquisition have been finalized over the past 3 years. Everything is now in the hands of the state to carry out the study and implementation phases, and thus improve the connection between the municipality of Bissen and the canton of Redange.

Public transport

Over the past 3 years, we have successfully estab-

lished a more frequent public transport service at the RGTR level to the Ettelbruck and Mersch train stations. Our goal is also to have a bus line passing through the Mersch road in the future. Also, we do not want to settle for creating a new bus line to the canton of Redange, but we also want to take care of the bus lines going to the high schools and work with the responsible minister to provide better service to the many surrounding high schools.

In the heart of Bissen, a central and modern bus stop should be created. This stop should offer our users a central departure point to the various major exchange hubs in the region. In addition to suitable equipment such as digital departure and arrival boards, shelters, and easy access for people with reduced mobility, all RGTR bus lines passing through Bissen will have to stop there.

Networks

Over the past years, a large number of underground infrastructures such as sewage canals, water pipes, electricity and postal conduits have been renovated or are currently undergoing renovation. Our public lighting system has almost entirely been adapted to LED technology. Our pedestrian crossings are better illuminated. We will also continue to constantly work on expanding these networks in the future.

Traffic within our neighborhoods must be slowed down through different measures, as is already the case in the Brill neighborhood or more recently in Reckange Street. These measures aim to improve the quality of life in residential areas

Road Construction

Bissen suffers from heavy passing traffic during rush hours, due to people going to or returning from work. That is why we are planning redevelopment projects on the main axes, national roads and resumption roads (CR) in collaboration with the Bridges and Highways Administration. A speed bump is expected to be built between 2024 and 2025 at the entrance of the village on the Mersch road. At the same time, the 30 km/h zone project will be implemented in the village center, starting with traffic calming measures between the primary school and the beginning of the Grand-Rue bridge, at the "Gréngen Eck" café.

The entrance to the railway and mill streets will be adapted to ensure that children can move around as safely as possible. The traffic light system at the intersection will be reviewed.

Measures will be taken at the Bissen mill and at the entrance of the village on the Boevange road to reduce the speed of passing vehicles.

Tourism

Bissen has many tourist attractions worth highlighting, including listed historic buildings, many attractive hiking trails and a beautiful landscape on the banks of the Attert. In order to promote tourism and make our municipality more attractive, a "Bed & Bike Hotel" project with a youth hostel is planned for the site of the old mill, in addition to the already established Cyclo Croc.

The old Bissen forge is an iconic place of our municipality's historical heritage, related to industry and TrefilARBED (ArcelorMittal site). Here, a cultural and artistic meeting place will be created. This place can also be a refuge for young startups to develop their ideas.

As part of the LEADER 2023-2030 project, the municipality wants to actively participate in various means of accommodation in the "Guttland" region. That is why we see the possibility of creating isolated places for camping cars, encouraging the population to create guest houses through subsidies, or building a few "Tinyhouses" for accommodation purposes.







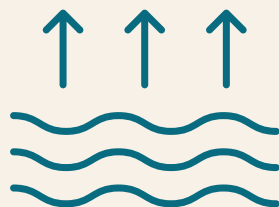
3. Water, Energy, Climate, Nature and Environment

Water

Our drinking water is a vital resource, which is why the construction of the new water basin is one of our priorities. Other investments in the water well near the mill or on the “Scheierbaach” site are necessary. We want to explore whether it is possible to use new technologies to reduce the limestone content of our water at the source. Another major project is the protection of sources. This must absolutely continue to be developed and implemented to ensure the quality of our water and to be able to use it sustainably.



In the future, our drinking water must be accessible to everyone. That is why we are planning water fountains at various public places throughout the municipality. With a large drinking water network, the risk of leaks is inevitable, but it is our duty to minimize them as much as possible by detecting them very quickly. This can be achieved by continuously updating our monitoring systems. We want to conduct awareness campaigns to encourage and help our residents to save drinking water. The proposed measures against heavy rains and floods, selected during the study conducted by the specialized Hömme office, will be carefully examined so that they can be applied on the ground in the coming years, thus protecting



residents against the risks of flooding and flash floods. Specifically, and this is an absolute priority, we want to protect the residents of the Finsterthal road by intervening between the “am Frounert” site and the bridge near the ArcelorMittal site. This intervention will also have a beneficial effect on the water flow downstream, particularly at the Grand-Rue bridge. In addition, we want to implement concrete measures on the “am Frounert” site to delay the Attert river from leaving its bed as long as possible, thus further protecting the city center against floods. The episodes of very heavy rains have shown us that we are obliged to constantly monitor our retention basins. Here too, we plan numerous measures to protect our residential areas. It is also very important that residents themselves know how to protect themselves against floods, and we want to support them in their efforts through an effective information policy.

Energy and climate

The explosion of energy prices requires a radical change in thinking about our current energy sources. There are ways to save energy, whether at the community, industrial, or home level. As part of the Climate Pact 2.0, we have committed to taking measures to continuously reduce our consumption of fossil fuels, reduce our CO2 emissions, and thus contribute to the fight against climate change.

In an audit within the framework of the Climate Pact 2.0, the municipality reached Category 2 of committed communities with a score of 64.9%. We aim to reach 65% in July and conduct another audit to move up to Category 3.

A municipality must set a good example. That is why we have taken numerous energy measures in recent years to reduce our CO2 emissions. In the future, we want to continue this and promote energy renovation of our buildings and analyze possible savings at the community level. Our climate team will develop membership in a solar installation cooperative. For example, if necessary, we will cover our parking lots and those of companies with carports equipped with solar roofs or photovoltaic installations. In addition, energy awareness among our children should be managed by the “détectives énergétiques” program in the child-care center. We will also continue to carry out energy awareness campaigns.

Our catalog of municipal energy subsidies is a living document and should receive very interesting subsidies in the coming years. Thus, we could imagine supporting the construction of mini wind turbines for the self-consumption of inhabitants.

We have found that we still need to improve our public infrastructure. Thus, we want to equip some of the pedestrian paths with LED lighting and examine the possibility of activating them with motion detectors, which will allow for more energy savings. An example of such an infrastructure installation would be the pedestrian bridge suspended between Colmar Road and Moulins Street.

Nature and Environment

In 2022, the municipality joined the Nature Pact. Through this, we aim to place particular emphasis on nature and the environment, and actively contribute to the preservation of biodiversity and our natural resources. This applies to both residential areas and fields, river zones, and forests. Although the municipality has already taken various measures in this direction and achieved the first level, we want to continue actively engaging in nature protection.

One concrete idea we have is to promote the growth of orchids on the dry lawns of our south-facing communal plots. To do so, clearing will be necessary in these areas. This is the only way for small orchids to have the necessary space for survival. We acquired a plot on the Boevange road to carry out this project.

The forests of the future must effectively absorb CO2 from our atmosphere, store water, preserve biodiversity, and provide wood as a renewable raw material. That is why we will maintain our strategy of gradually replacing monocultures of conifers on the communal territory with mixed forests that are more resistant to the climate. All of this will be done in close collaboration with our forest ranger.



To improve our forests' water storage, we will continue to leave some felled trees or dead trees on the ground. This will enable new ecosystems to develop, as well as natural forest regeneration.

The Bissen forests are accessible to everyone. With the forest ranger, we have placed great emphasis on diverse use of them. Our hiking trails have not only been enhanced by a "Guttlandtrail," but our "an der Bonnert" trail has also been awarded national comfort certification. This guarantees that the trail can be used by people with reduced mobility, who can fully enjoy nature.

Humans need nature to recharge and organize their leisure activities, but it is very important for us not to forget to protect the forest's fauna. That is why we believe that road traffic should be reduced around the Bissen ponds and fragile ecosystems. To familiarize our youngest with nature and the forest from an early age, we want the project of a forest nursery to finally become a reality in the coming years.

Local and regional products are close to our hearts. That is why Bissen honey will be produced at the "an der Geiwels" site. With our agricultural companies, we want to offer everyone a range of local food products.







4. Sports, culture, senior citizens and finances

Sports and culture

We place great value on strong local associations and will continue to support them as best we can in the years to come. We want to offer support to sports associations, both to strengthen volunteerism and to offer excellent quality training to members. Of course, we will not forget athletes who cannot practice their sport within our municipality.



That is why we want to develop a concept with our sports coordinator to guarantee greater financial support for youth coaching and to support the administrative aspect in such a way as to relieve volunteers. Regarding sports facilities, we want to propose a solution for associations to cope with the explosion in the number of people obtaining their sports license. Specifically, we are planning the construction of a national beach ball and tennis hall, an expansion of football training grounds, and an adequate shelter for the pétanque field. Cultural associations also need greater support from the municipality in our opinion, especially in terms of all the staging equipment and technical equipment in our performance halls. We want to support associations so that they no longer have to resort to very expensive equipment rentals, by providing the appropriate equipment. In the long term, associations will be able to rely on a high-performance and specific

hall for cultural performances. To facilitate the implementation of the "Green Charta" green charter, we will negotiate with the Employment Forum service, in particular, to provide associations with covers and glasses during major events.

Third age

Our seniors should feel comfortable in our municipality. In addition to the many activities we currently offer through the Senior Commission, the Uelzechtdall organization, and the "lessstuff" catering service, we want to expand the available offerings and optimize existing activities. We are particularly thinking of a significant improvement of the "lessstuff" premises, which we also see as being in a more central and better accessible location. Our seniors have extraordinary life experience and knowledge. These must not be lost, which is why their ideas and interests will find their place in

the political process through the Senior Council. We want to dedicate an entire month of the year to the third age. This will be filled with all kinds of activities, film screenings, training sessions, and hikes. Often isolated, we want to support the quality of life of our elderly by offering them a free support service in the future. Our seniors inform themselves through the Klautjen journal, bisInfo, and other available media. We want to introduce and explain modern communication methods to them by organizing courses on these topics.

Finances

Healthy communal finances are the key to a high quality of life for our residents. Households should be able to benefit from additional subsidies for projects aimed at protecting nature and the climate, such as reducing sealed surfaces, renovating and greening roofs, etc. Private initiatives or projects that benefit the entire population will be financially supported by the commune. Stable and healthy communal finances are ensured by a long-term, well-planned and predictable policy:

- Regional collaboration enables significant savings in ordinary operating costs, such as the sharing of materials or personnel.
- Proposing budget points that favor regional cooperation, such as the LEADER tourism project.
- Not letting state subsidies slip away, but using them judiciously.
- Budgeting in advance for future missions.

For the next 6 years, we do not want to cause a recession in communal services and public infrastructure. It is therefore essential that investments remain high in the future to guarantee a high quality of life for our residents. Of course, it is necessary to prioritize projects.

However, this is only possible if there is an overview of all the projects that can or must be carried out.

In recent years, we have been able to significantly increase our real estate assets through major acquisitions in the heart of the village. This will allow future generations to benefit from the necessary spaces for the expansion of infrastructure within our commune.

In the future, we want to keep communal finances in balance without making inappropriate savings in the wrong places or hesitating to invest where necessary.





From left to right:
Loïc Brune, Sébastien Steffes, Marco Stacchiotti, Kevin Englebert, Cindy Barros Dinis,
Georges Lucius, David Viaggi, Joe Geisen, Béatrice Horsmans-Kabers, Jos Koecher, Roger Saurfeld

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