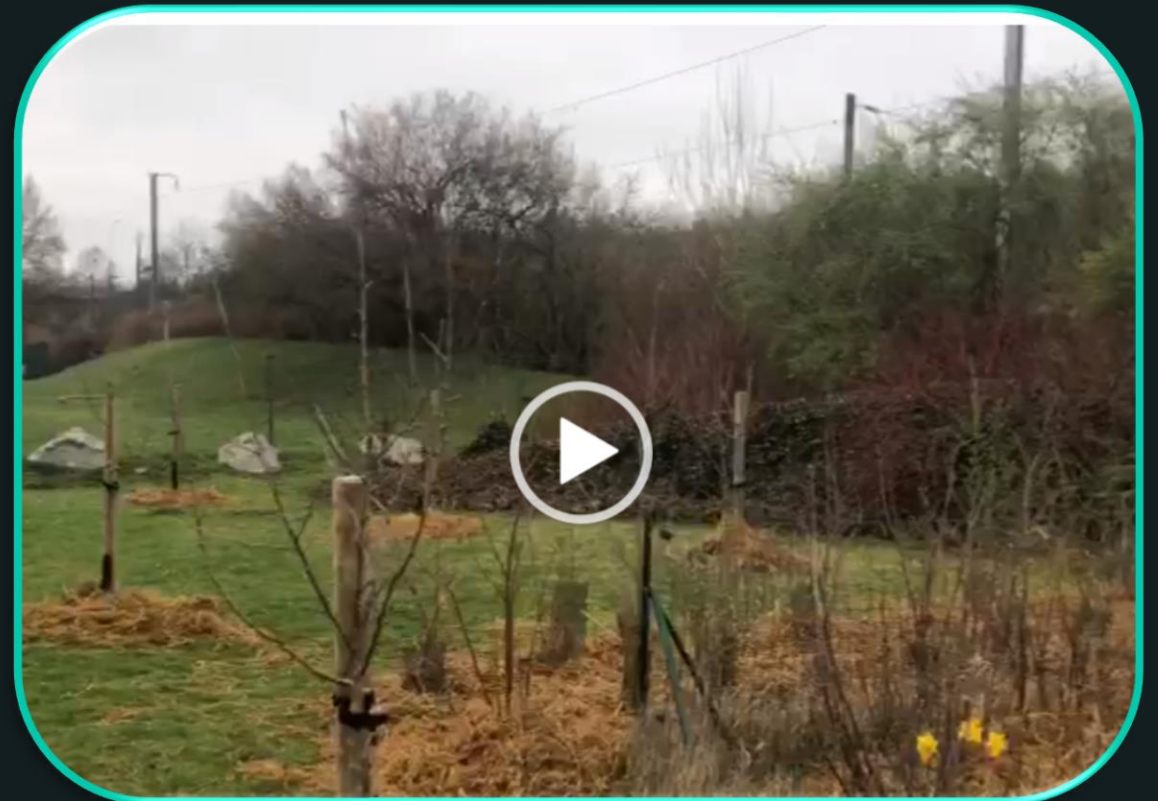




SUSTAINABILITY CASE STUDIES

LUC Ronchin “Potager” project





LUC Ronchin “Potager” project

Objectives

- To find a new way to attract kids to the club using the sensory activity of gardening to demonstrate their values and enhance the surrounding area



Description

- Near their clubhouse was a patch of wasteland which the club President agreed could be used for a new project, so starting in 2019, weekly family-friendly hockey sessions on Saturday mornings for an hour were followed by an hour of developing the garden.
- In the garden, they now grow apples, pears, plums, currants and raspberries as well as trying out potatoes, onions, courgettes, squash and tomatoes.
- Each year, they share a meal together, eating produce from the garden and sharing it with friends and families
- The idea is for club members to improve the living environment so that they want to stay a bit longer each time and maybe participate in the life of the club
- In a related initiative, the club’s pitch watering system uses 75% rainwater and they continue to look for new sustainable projects throughout the club



LUC Ronchin “Potager” project

Results

- The project has seen more than 10 families become embedded in the club with the children adopting the sport with a new cohort of adults engaged and contributing in the community
- It is part of the reason why the club was successful in the EHF Club of the Year awards in 2022, showing a unique way to engage with members.
- They were surprised to win the Small Club of the Year award but were very proud as the prize was not for the results on the pitch, but for all they do as a club.
- Project leader Mathieu Wlodarczyk commented - *“We are not just for competition but for life;. For us, it is important to have social activities. For two years, we have had Walking Hockey for senior people with mobility issues or cardiac problems to still do sports.*
- *“We contribute in the neighbourhood to develop sport for children who financially can’t. We are definitely proud to be recognised for that.”*



The Hockey Potager, Mathieu Włodarczyk