



# Growing Media Europe

Growing Media Europe Newsletter

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## GME Quarterly Newsletter

Dear Sir or Madam,,

Welcome to our first GME Newsletter of 2023. This quarterly publication is intended to increase the level of direct communication with our members, keeping all of you “in the loop” on the most important topics. The newsletter contains short summaries and teasers on the highlights of the daily work of GME, without going into a high level of detail. You are always welcome to get back to us for more in-depth information on one or several subjects. Please enjoy!

by [Geoffrey Bennett](#)

### Update on GME Work Groups and Task Forces:

#### **Working Group Public Affairs:**

The working Group Public Affairs elected a new Chair of the Working Group towards the end of 2022. Nina Kinnunen will be the Chair for 2023, which looks set to be a busy year. The ongoing work on Sustainable Finance taxonomy, Nature Restoration Law and some new upcoming pieces of legislation will keep the Working Group busy and active in EU affairs. The public Affairs working group has been tasked with working and transforming the output from the 1<sup>st</sup> Strategy Workshop in preparation for the next workshop planned to be held in the upcoming Spring meeting, more information below.

### **Task Force LCA:**

Task Force LCA has started back up for the first time in over a year! The reason for this Task Force to be called upon once again is the GME LCA tool completed v1 of the tool in Q1 2023. The Task Force's work will center around discussing the tool, communicating any bugs, and providing any feedback to Blonk. The Task Force will also be set up to be a 'steering committee' for the GME LCA tool. This steering committee is essential for any future work on expanding the tool, by providing oversight, and expertise of the GME Members

### **Science Coordinator:**

In March, GME was happy to welcome the newest member of the secretariat, Alex Sentinella, Science Coordinator. Since starting, Alex has been speaking to GME members, reaching out to scientists, and has attended a number of informational and networking events (Grow23, Forum for the Future of Agriculture, Belgian Biodiversity Network). Alex has also met up with his counterparts in the IPS (International Peatland Society) and CSPMA (Canadian Sphagnum Peat Moss Association) to start developing an international science strategy, and help shape GME's science strategy. Going forward, Alex is continuing to read up on a wide range of helpful resources sent through to him from GME members. If any member wants to reach out to Alex, or send through any more information or contacts, please feel free to email him at [alex.sentinella@gmail.com](mailto:alex.sentinella@gmail.com).



### **Growing Media Europe Spring meeting:**

Growing Media Europe will host a Spring Members meeting in Madrid, Spain from 31 May – 1 June 2023. The spring meeting will consist of two Strategy Workshop sessions, one in the afternoon of 31 May and the second in the morning of 1 June 2023. The goal of these strategy workshops is to continue the positive discussions held in the first one, with the goal of defining a strategy or vision for the industry. This is best done with as much of the

industry present as possible. In-between these two sessions there will be a members dinner, a more detailed agenda will be shared with GME members closer to the event. If you have not yet registered and would like to attend, please fill in the registration form sent out to all members. If you did not receive this, please contact Geoffrey at [geoffrey.bennett@growing-media.eu](mailto:geoffrey.bennett@growing-media.eu)

### **Events attended in Q1 2023**

IPM Essen: Growing Media Europe Secretariat attended the IPM Essen fair in January 2023. Here we held a Board Meeting, the first of 2023 and met GME members who attended and who had a stall set up. Geoffrey also spent time identifying and meeting potential new GME members.

Grow23: Kekkilä-BVB hosted their annual Grow23 event, this time an in-person event hosted in Brussels, Belgium.



### **Webinars attended in Q1:**

Living in the bioeconomy – Swedish presidency of the Council of the European Union

Hybrid Event: The nutrients beneath our feet – How to make every nutrient count for healthy soils? - Attended in person, hosted by MEP Franc Bogovič

Governments commit to forest restoration, but what does it take to restore forests?