



**TERMS OF REFERENCE  
EXTERNAL IP EXPERT**

10<sup>th</sup> of June 2025

Grant Agreement no. 101112055

Project full name:

**HYSCALE – ECONOMIC GREEN HYDROGEN PRODUCTION AT SCALE VIA A NOVEL,  
CRITICAL RAW MATERIAL FREE, HIGHLY EFFICIENT AND LOW-CAPEX ADVANCED  
ALKALINE MEMBRANE WATER ELECTROLYSIS TECHNOLOGY**

Project acronym: **HYScale**

Expression of Interest for  
“External IP Expert”

Date of publication of the call: 10<sup>th</sup> of June 2025

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This Expression of Interest documentation is the underlying document for drawing up and submitting interest by experts for the above-mentioned HE project HYScale (Grant Agreement no. 101112055).

## **1. Contracting Organisation**

### **1.1 Basic data and Person Authorised to Act on Behalf of the Contracting Organisation**

- **Contracting organisation**

Name: META Group Srl.

Person Authorised to Act on Behalf of the Contracting Authority: Mr Andrea Di Anselmo.

- **Contact Person of the HYScale project**

Contact person for the HYScale project is: Mr Antonello Fiorucci

e-mail: [a.fiorucci@meta-group.com](mailto:a.fiorucci@meta-group.com)

## 2. Preamble

### HYScale

HYScale is a **Clean Hydrogen Joint Undertaking** ('granting authority'), under the powers delegated by the European Commission (European Commission'), project proposed by 9 organisations (CENMAT, PPC, HyGear, DLR, META, CNR, BEKAERT, CEA, UL) that is reshaping the landscape with its advanced **alkaline membrane water electrolysis (AMWE) technology**, which stands out for its efficiency and sustainability. The HYScale method produces hydrogen at current densities far **exceeding the industry standard**, all without relying on **critical raw materials** or fluorinated components.

HYScale key objectives are:

- **Improving Material Efficiency:** Making the components of the HYScale electrolyser more efficient, durable, economical and environmentally sustainable for greener hydrogen production.
- **Large AEMWE Prototype:** Creating a large electrolyser AEMWE stack (100 kW) integrated into a smart designed balance of plant (BoP) working under a wide range of conditions.
- **Ensuring Stability in Varied Conditions:** Incorporating innovations into the HYScale electrolyser, robust management of energy supply fluctuations can be ensured when operated with or integrated into renewable sources.
- **Testing in Real-World Scenario:** Integrating a 100-kW system into a real-world setting to test its practicality and move it closer to being market-ready.
- **Demonstrating High Efficiency and Durability:** Showing that HYScale system can work efficiently, using less electricity and maintaining its performance over time during real-world testing.
- **Lowering Initial Costs:** Reducing the initial setup costs by using high-quality sustainable materials, simpler manufacturing techniques, and a new design.

### 3. Mandate of Experts

HYScale is looking for an external expert who can deliver the following services:

initial IP audit for each Key Exploitable Result (KER) (patent landscaping, market intelligence and the IP evaluation).

Below you can find the details of the single service.

Service number	Service name	Service description	Beneficiary	Expected timeframe for delivery	Experts' days recognized
1	IP Audit.	External IP expert (Patent Attorney and/or Attorney at Law) will conduct an initial IP audit for each of 5 Key Exploitable Result (KER). This will include patent landscaping, market intelligence, and IP evaluation, providing guidance on the best strategy to protect the beneficiary's intangible assets. The expert will also offer tailored recommendations for strengthening the IPR strategy.	Project Partners	June 2025 – December 2025	38/42

To apply, Expert need to meet the following criteria:

- Proven expertise in the EU-funded research project (at least 10 years and/or previous experiences).
- Fluency in English.
- Availability to work remotely.

Experts will be in charge of analysing HYScale projects, under the previously agreed conditions with the contractor.

### 4. Duration and Timeframe

The call for Experts will be opened on the 10<sup>th</sup> of June 2025 and will close on the 20<sup>th</sup> of June 2025.

### 5. Estimated Value of the ISC Member Contract

The recognized daily fee for the expert is EUR 500 including VAT<sup>1</sup> (if due).

<sup>1</sup> Please check the VAT rates applied in your country: [https://europa.eu/youreurope/business/taxation/vat/vat-rules-rates/index\\_en.htm](https://europa.eu/youreurope/business/taxation/vat/vat-rules-rates/index_en.htm)

## 6. Requirements for Meeting qualifications Criteria

Applicants can be only physical person.

Providing proof of qualifications is a prerequisite for the evaluation of the application within the open call for expression of interest. Qualifications shall be met by experts who can prove that they have:

- Seniority in the field (*at least 15 years*)
- Proven expertise (*at least 10 years*) in supporting European projects.
- Fluent written and spoken English.

The following scores apply for the required qualifications:

<b>Seniority in the field (at least 15 years)</b>	Min score: 1	Max score: 5
<b>Proven expertise (at least 10 years) in supporting European projects.</b>	Min score: 1	Max score: 5
<b>Fluent English</b>	Min score: 1	Max score: 5
<b>Total max score: 15</b>		

Candidates which:

- do not meet the minimum threshold of 12,
- and/or do not have at least 5 years of experience in supporting European projects,

will not be considered eligible.

## 7. Deadline for Submission and Contents of the Expression of Interest

### 7.1 Submission of the Expression of Interest

The deadline for submitting the expression of interest is **20<sup>th</sup> of June 2025, 6pm Central European Time.**

The expression of interest shall be submitted through the following Google form: <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1mSGbthzbukLCmT5uRXPfYWvtv ZiDtHBUSivLIZMOAM/edit>

If any kind of support is needed, please write an email to [e.missiroli@meta-group.com](mailto:e.missiroli@meta-group.com)

*Please include in the subject of the e-mail the following: External IP Expert's Expression of Interest.*

### 7.2 Content of Expression of Interest and selection

Each Expression of Interest should contain the following:

- Provide personal information for contact purposes.

- Describe your main skills and provide evidence of your expertise for three areas<sup>2</sup> as from section 6. Please keep to the characters limit in the text boxes.

Detailed CV - key information should include the number of years of experience and degree of responsibility held in various relevant projects. The selection of the eligible profiles will be based on the following:

- Applicants will be evaluated using the table from section 6 in accordance with the best value for money principle.
- Those not achieving a total score of 12 will be not eligible.
- For those eligible, a ranking will be created based on the total score.
- There will be one single ranking and the first profile will be selected.
- In case the first-ranked profile will be not available to deliver the services, the second-ranked one will be contacted (and so on until the contacted expert accepts the assignment/s).

### **7.3 Contract duration**

For IPR support services, there will be a contract that can be renewed depending on the evaluations made by the HYScale team based on feedback collected from beneficiaries. Renewals will occur at each HYScale cohort selection. The maximum duration will be December 2026, when HYScale closes.

For regulation support services, the contract will have a fixed duration (on average four months) and cannot be renewed.

## **8. Other Conditions**

The contractors reserve the right to amend or modify conditions laid down in the Expression of Interest documentation. The contractors shall be obliged to inform all participants about any amendment to the Expression of Interest documentation.

Requests for additional information (via e-mail) can be made on the following address:

Contact: [info@HYScale.eu](mailto:info@HYScale.eu)

## **9. Data protection**

META Group processes the personal data submitted by the applicants as part of the application (names, CVs, professional experience, emails, etc.), in any submitted supporting document at any stage in the selection process of the experts and communication related thereto.

The purpose of this processing operation is to assess the suitability of candidates as experts for evaluating submissions for the Expression of Interest During this processing, the personal data will be made available to selected staff working on the specific Expression of Interest and to the other partners of HYScale which

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<sup>2</sup> 1) expertise in the field of Circular Economy; 2) expertise in evaluating the investment readiness of Circular Economy projects; 3) understanding of the financing needs of Circular Economy projects.

are involved in the selection process of the ISC members. Lastly, it may also be shared with other parties in the context and purpose of audits.

The applicable legal framework for data protection purposes for this processing of personal data is Regulation (EU) 2016/679 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 27 April 2016 on the protection of natural persons with regard to the processing of personal data and on the free movement of such data, and repealing Directive 95/46/EC (General Data Protection Regulation).