Supplementary Information

A facile route to carbon-coated nickel-based metal nanoparticles

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Raman, IR and XPS spectra of Ni/C, FeNi/C core/shell structures; and TEM images of the samples obtained in various conditions

**Figure S1** Raman spectra of Ni/C (a) and FeNi/C (b) core/shell structures.

**Figure S2** FTIR spectra of Ni/C (a) and FeNi/C (b) core/shell structures.
Figure S3 XPS spectra of Ni/C (a) and FeNi/C (b) core/shell nanostructures, inset is high-resolution XPS spectrum showing the C 1s peaks for Ni/C.

Figure S4 TEM image of FeNi/C nanostructures obtained with the carbonization process carried out under ultrasonic radiation while keeping other conditions.
Figure S5 TEM image of FeNi/C nanostructures obtained with the carbonization in the presence of 0.6 mL water while keeping other conditions.

Figure S6 TEM image of Ni/C nanostructures obtained with the carbonization in the presence of 0.6 mL water while keeping other conditions.
Figure S7 TEM image of sample obtained by addition of concentrated H$_2$SO$_4$ (98%) in the aqueous FeNi NPs at -5 °C followed by keeping it at 40 °C for 2 hours.

Figure S8 TEM image of sample obtained by the carbonization of FeNi NPs with concentrated H$_2$SO$_4$ (98%) in the presence of sucrose using ethanol as a solvent.
Figure S9 TEM image of FeNi/C sample obtained using 0.4 mL acetaldehyde as carbon source while keeping other conditions.