

## Electronic Supplementary Information

### **Micro-crystals of metal-organic frameworks constructed from pyrene-based organic linkers and lanthanide ions for tunable white light emission**

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## General

All chemicals and solvents were obtained from commercial sources and were used as received. All SEM images were acquired using a Hitachi SU 1510 SEM. The EDX spectra were obtained using a Hitachi SU 1510 SEM equipped with a Horiba EMAX Energy E-250 EDS system. X-ray diffraction studies were carried out using a Rigaku Ultima IV equipped with a graphite monochromated  $\text{Cu}_{k\alpha}$  radiation source (40 kV, 40 mA). The IR spectra of solid samples were obtained using a Jasco FT/IR 4200 spectrometer as KBr pellet. TGA measurements were conducted using a Shimadzu TGA-50 in an oxygen atmosphere at a heating rate of  $5\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C min}^{-1}$ . Emission spectra were obtained using a Perkin Elmer LS 55 fluorometer using quartz cells ( $10 \times 4$  mm light path). Metal analysis was conducted using a Perkin Elmer NexION300 inductively coupled plasma-mass spectrometer (ICP-MS).

## Preparation of CPP-17 of a three-dimensional framework $[\text{Gd}_3(\text{BDC})_{4.5}(\text{S})_a]_n$

A coordination polymer precursor solution was prepared by mixing 1,4-benzenedicarboxylic acid ( $\text{H}_2\text{BDC}$ , 4.98 mg, 0.030 mmol) and  $\text{Gd}(\text{NO}_3)_3 \cdot 6\text{H}_2\text{O}$  (14.895 mg, 0.033 mmol) in 7.5 mL of DMF/THF cosolvent (2:1 v/v). The resulting precursor solution was placed in an oil bath ( $140\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$ ) for 20 min. After 20 min, the resulting particles were isolated and subsequently washed several times with DMF and acetonitrile *via* centrifugation-redispersion cycles. Each successive supernatant was decanted and replaced with fresh solvent. IR for CPP-17 (KBr pellet  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ): 1666 (s), 1641 (w), 1569 (s), 1505 (m), 1404 (s), 1312 (w), 1254 (w), 1158 (w), 1107 (w), 1019 (w), 886 (w), 820 (w), 752 (s), 677 (m), 515 (m).

## Preparation of a series of CPP-17-X (X = a-e), $[\text{Gd}_3(\text{BDC})_{4.5-x}(\text{L})_x(\text{S})_a]_n$

The precursor solutions were prepared by mixing  $\text{Gd}(\text{NO}_3)_3 \cdot 6\text{H}_2\text{O}$  (14.895 mg, 0.033 mmol) with the mixture of  $\text{H}_2\text{BDC}$  and 2-(pyrene-1-carboxamido)terephthalic acid ( $\text{H}_2\text{L}$ ) (0, 2.49, 3.74, 4.73, or

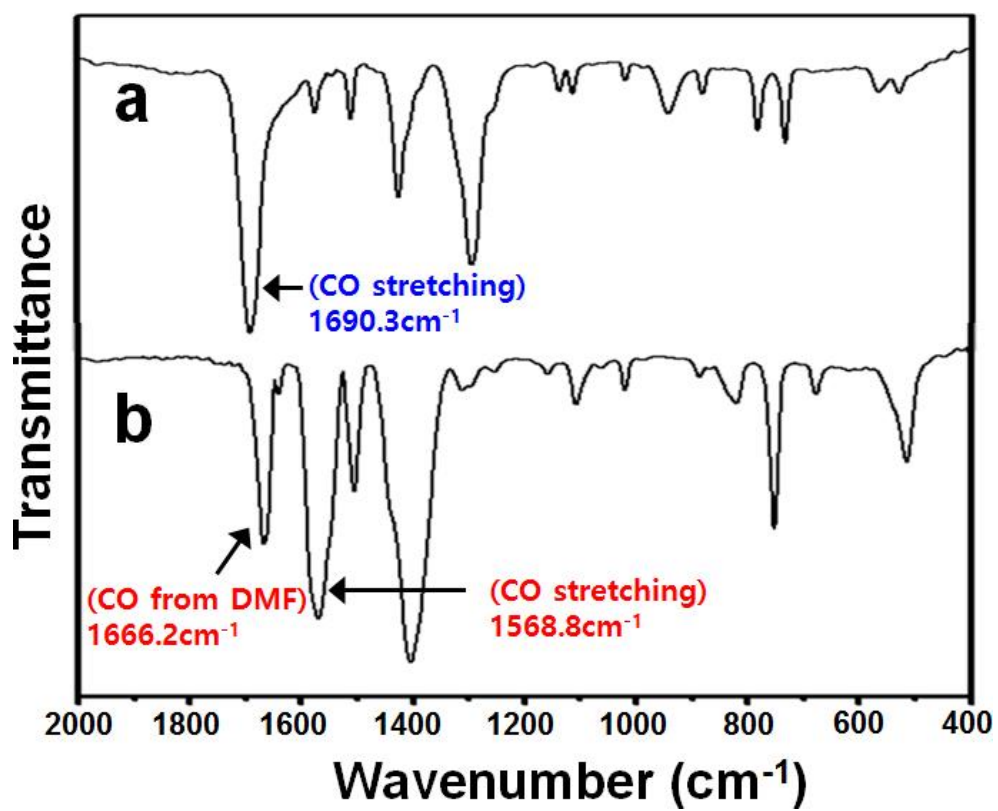
4.86 mg of H<sub>2</sub>BDC were used for CPP-17-a ~ CPP-17-e, respectively, and 12.27, 6.14, 3.07, 0.61, or 0.31 mg of H<sub>2</sub>L were used for CPP-17-a ~ CPP-17-e, respectively) in 7.5 mL of DMF/THF cosolvent (2:1 v/v). The resulting precursor solution was placed in an oil bath (140 °C) for 20 min. After 20 min, the resulting particles were isolated and subsequently washed several times with DMF and acetonitrile *via* centrifugation-redispersion cycles. Each successive supernatant was decanted and replaced with fresh solvent.

#### **Preparation of a series of CPP-17-Y (Y = i-viii), [Eu<sub>3-y</sub>Tb<sub>y</sub>(BDC)<sub>4.5</sub>(S)<sub>a</sub>]<sub>n</sub>**

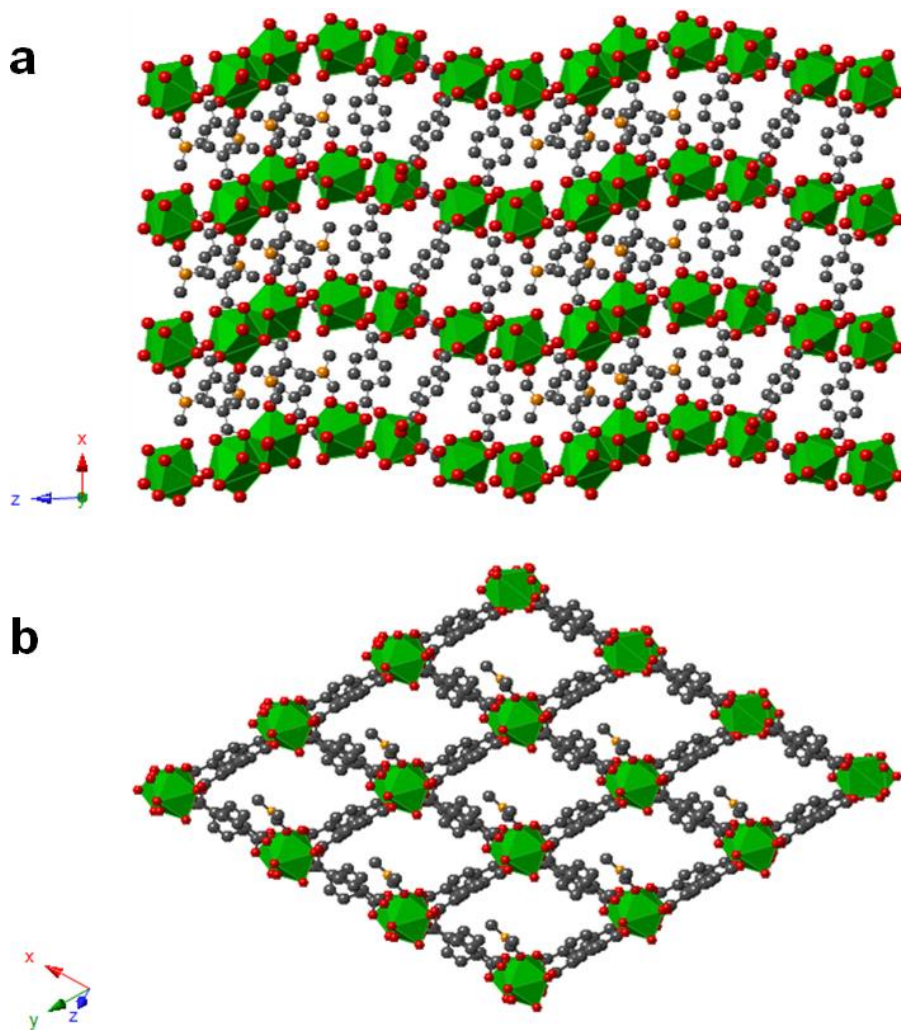
The precursor solution was prepared by mixing H<sub>2</sub>BDC (4.98 mg, 0.030 mmol) and a mixture of Eu(NO<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>·5H<sub>2</sub>O and/or Tb(NO<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>·5H<sub>2</sub>O at different ratios (the ratios of Eu(NO<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>·5H<sub>2</sub>O and Tb(NO<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>·5H<sub>2</sub>O were 1:0, 0.5:0.5, 0.3:0.7, 0.1:0.9, 0.075:0.925, 0.05:0.95, 0.025:0.975, or 0:1 for CPP-17-i ~ CPP-17-viii, respectively, with the total amount maintained at 0.03 mmol) in 7.5 mL of DMF/THF cosolvent (2:1 v/v). The resulting precursor solution was placed in an oil bath (140 °C) for 20 min. After 20 min, the resulting particles were isolated and subsequently washed several times with DMF and acetonitrile *via* centrifugation-redispersion cycles. Each successive supernatant was decanted and replaced with fresh solvent.

#### **Preparation of CPP-17-e-iv**

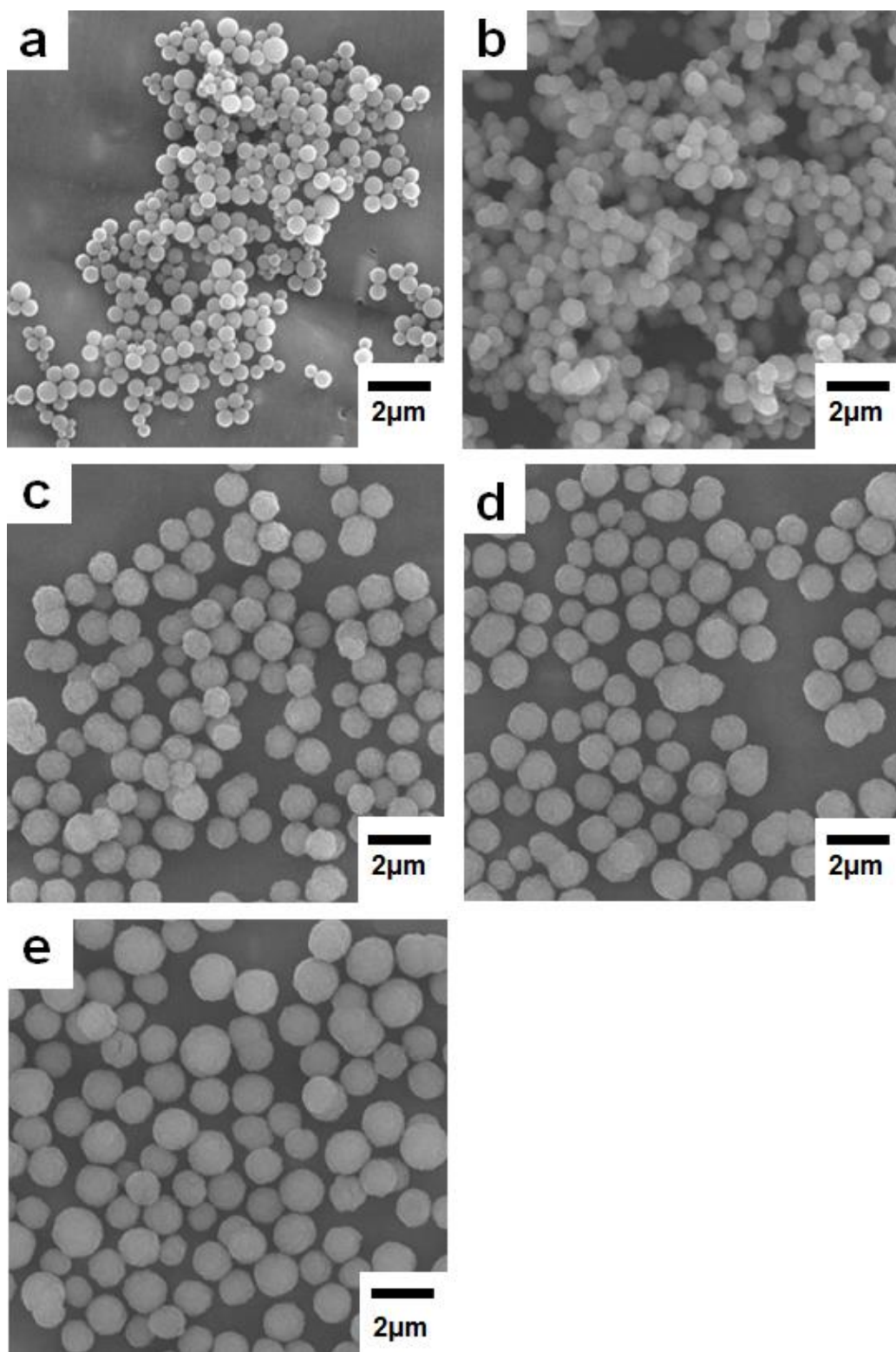
A coordination polymer precursor solution was prepared by mixing H<sub>2</sub>BDC (4.86 mg, 0.029 mmol), 2-(pyrene-1-carboxamido)terephthalic acid (H<sub>2</sub>L, 0.31mg, 0.00075 mmol), and a mixture of Eu(NO<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>·5H<sub>2</sub>O (1.41mg, 0.0033mmol) and Tb(NO<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>·5H<sub>2</sub>O (12.92mg, 0.0297mmol) in 7.5 mL of DMF/THF cosolvent (2:1 v/v). The resulting precursor solution was placed in an oil bath (140 °C) for 20 min. After 20 min, the resulting particles were isolated and subsequently washed several times with DMF and acetonitrile *via* centrifugation-redispersion cycles. Each successive supernatant was decanted and replaced with fresh solvent.



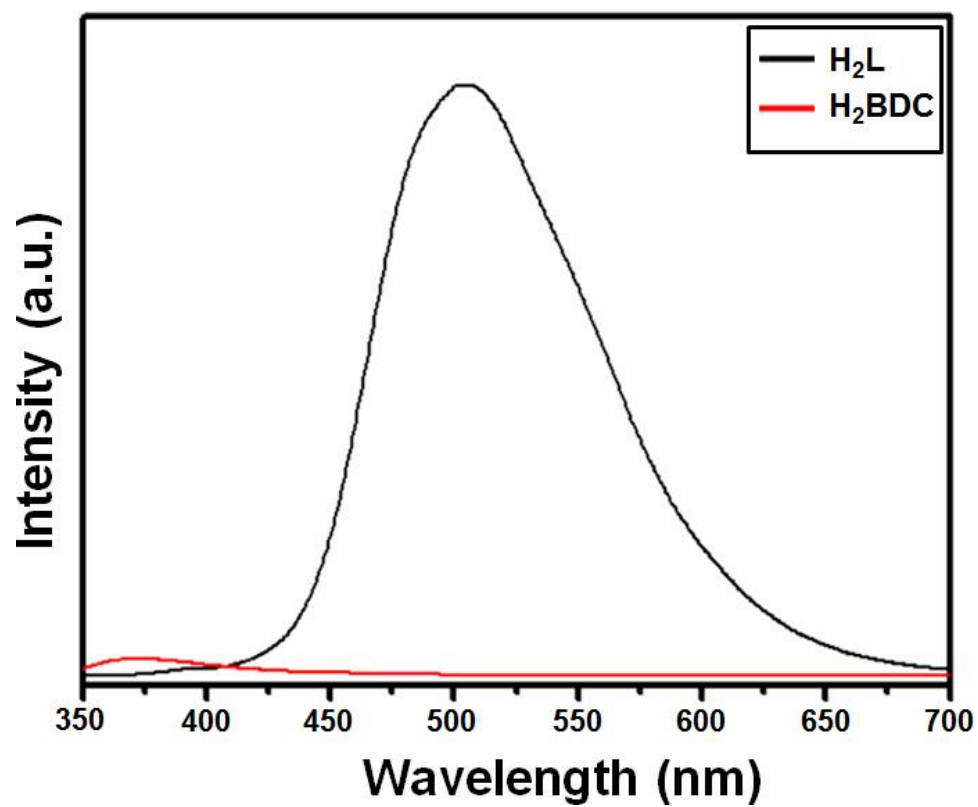
**Fig. S1** IR spectra of (a) H<sub>2</sub>BDC and (b) CPP-17 of [Gd<sub>3</sub>(BDC)<sub>4.5</sub>(S)<sub>a</sub>]<sub>n</sub>.



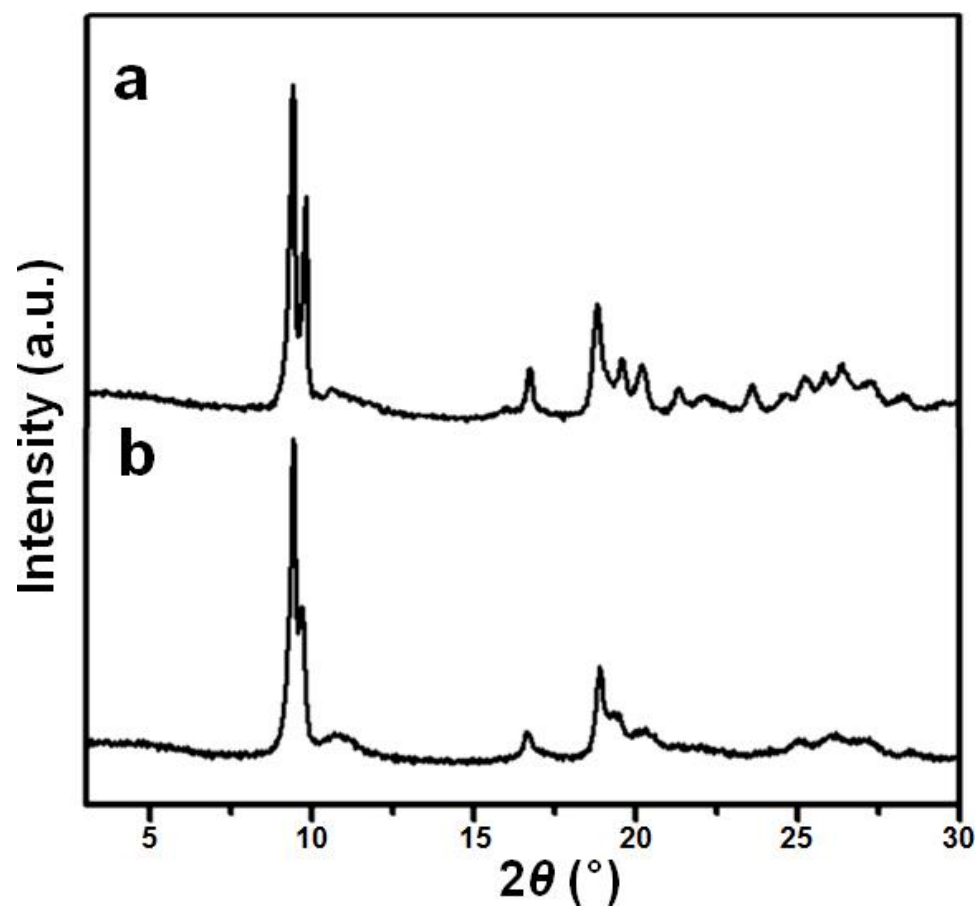
**Fig. S2** (a,b) Ball-and-stick representations of 3D framework of  $[\text{Tb}_3(\text{BDC})_{4.5}(\text{S})_a]_n$ . Polyhedra; terbium, gray; carbon, red; oxygen, orange; nitrogen. Hydrogen atoms and guest molecules are omitted for clarity.



**Fig. S3** SEM images of a series of CPPs (CPP-17-X, X = a-e;  $[\text{Gd}_3(\text{BDC})_{4.5-x}(\text{L})_x(\text{S})_a]_n$ ) with various ratios of  $\text{L}^{2-}:\text{BDC}^{2-}$  prepared using various initial amounts of  $\text{H}_2\text{L}$  and  $\text{H}_2\text{BDC}$  (a = 1:0, b = 0.5:0.5, c = 0.25:0.75, d = 0.05:0.95, e = 0.025:0.975). (a) CPP-17-a, (b) CPP-17-b, (c) CPP-17-c, (d) CPP-17-d, and (e) CPP-17-e.

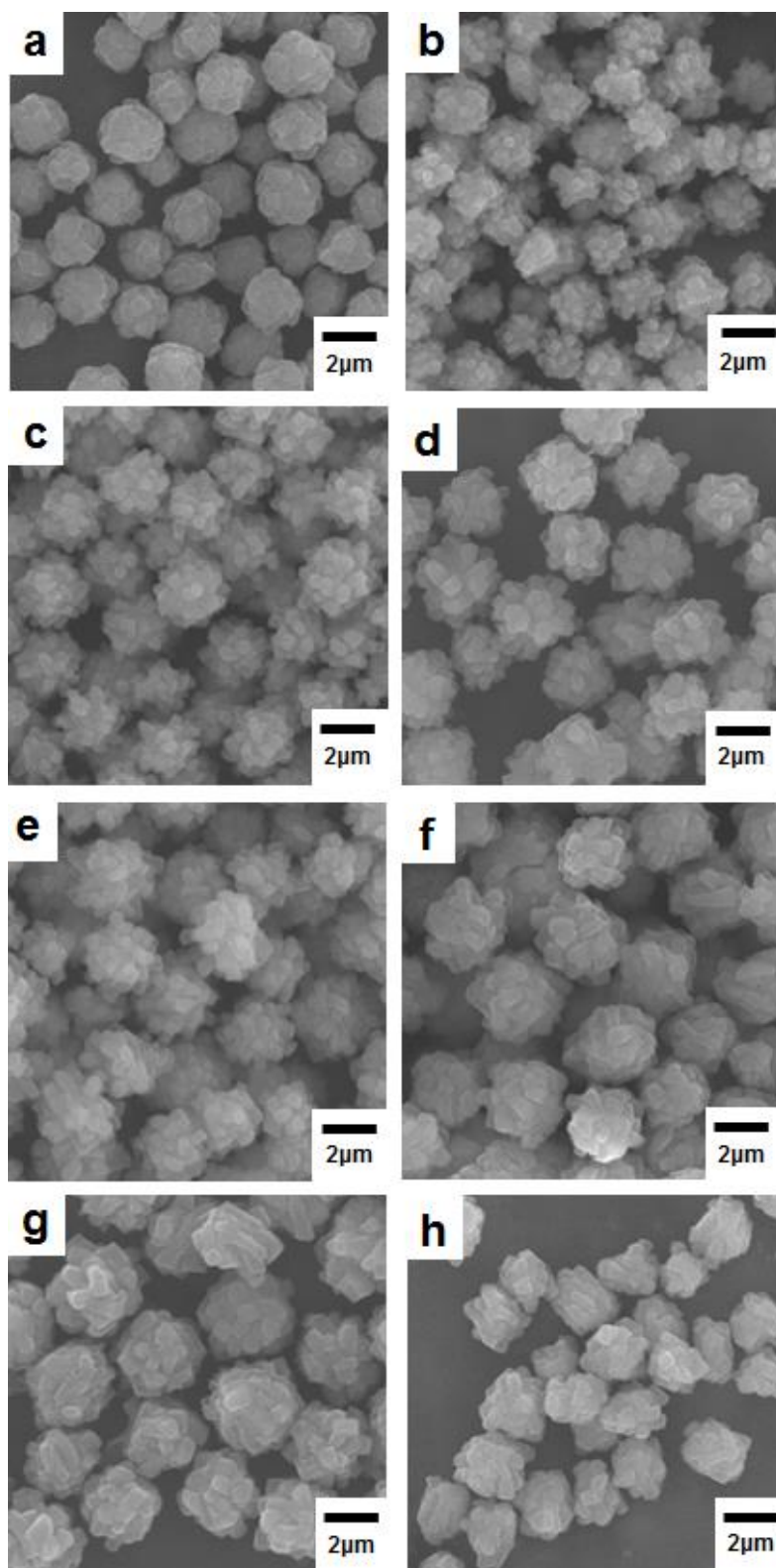


**Fig. S4** Emission spectra of H<sub>2</sub>L and H<sub>2</sub>BDC in CH<sub>3</sub>CN ( $c = 1.0 \times 10^{-4}$  M,  $\lambda_{\text{ex}} = 310$  nm).

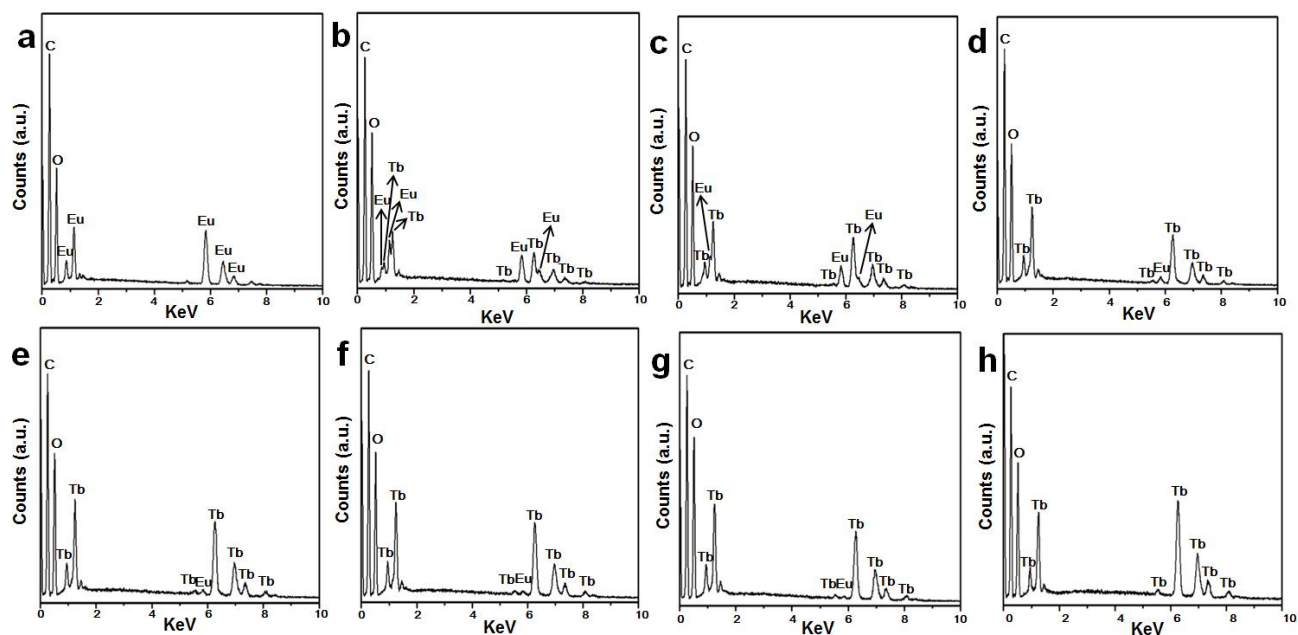


**Fig. S5** PXR D patterns of (a) CPP-17 and (b) CPP-17-e.





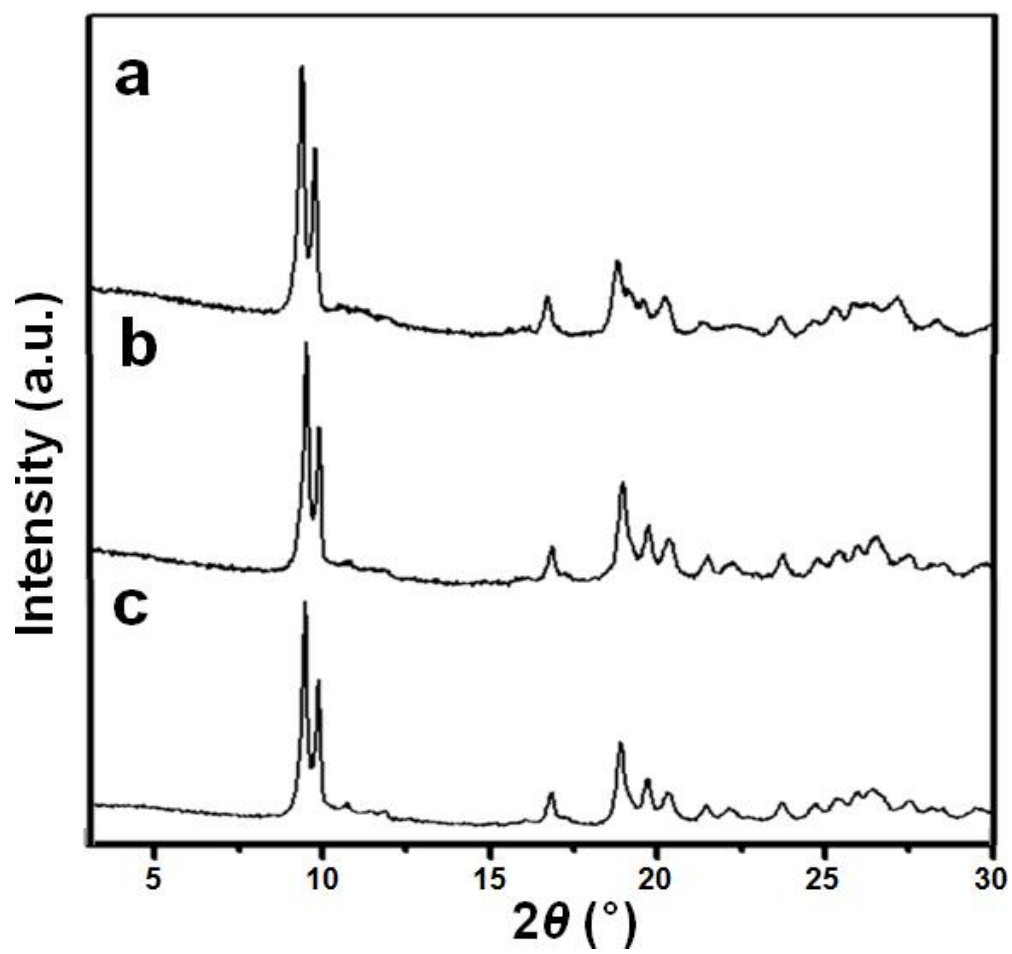
**Fig. S6** SEM images of a series of CPPs (CPP-17-Y, Y = i-viii;  $[\text{Eu}_{3-y}\text{Tb}_y(\text{BDC})_{4.5}(\text{S})_a]_n$ ) prepared using different ratios of  $\text{Eu}^{3+}:\text{Tb}^{3+}$  (i = 1:0, ii = 0.5:0.5, iii = 0.3:0.7, iv = 0.1:0.9, v = 0.075:0.925, vi = 0.05:0.95, vii = 0.025:0.975, viii = 0:1). (a) CPP-17-i, (b) CPP-17-ii, (c) CPP-17-iii, (d) CPP-17-iv, (e) CPP-17-v, (f) CPP-17-vi, (g) CPP-17-vii, and (h) CPP-17-viii.



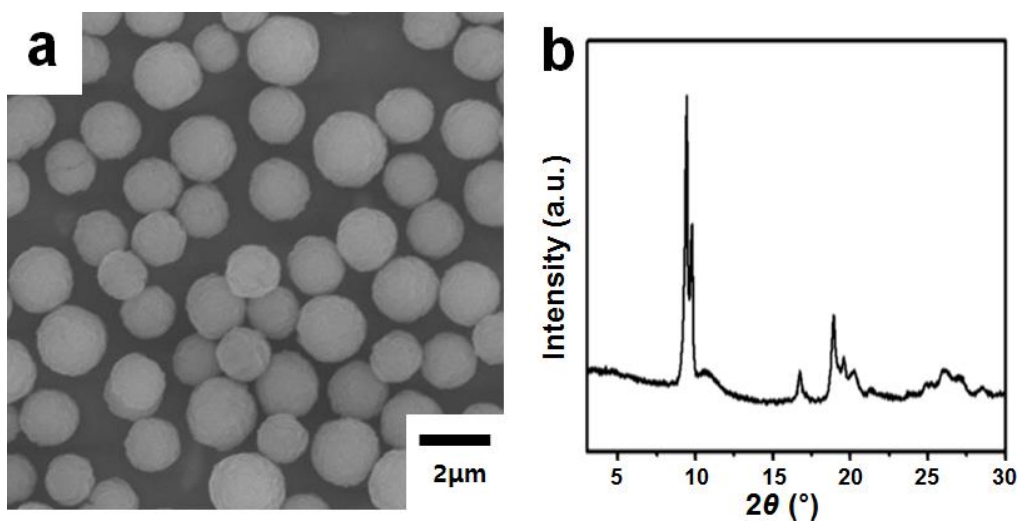
**Fig. S7** EDX spectra of a series of CPP-17-Y (Y = i-viii). (a) CPP-17-i, (b) CPP-17-ii, (c) CPP-17-iii, (d) CPP-17-iv, (e) CPP-17-v, (f) CPP-17-vi, (g) CPP-17-vii, and (h) CPP-17-viii.

**Table S1** The relative amounts of  $\text{Eu}^{3+}$  and  $\text{Tb}^{3+}$  incorporated within a series of CPP-17-Y (Y = i-viii);  $[\text{Eu}_{3-y}\text{Tb}_y(\text{BDC})_{4.5}(\text{S})_a]_n$  determined by ICP analysis.

| CPPs        | $\text{Eu}^{3+}$ (%) | $\text{Tb}^{3+}$ (%) |
|-------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| CPP-17-i    | 100                  | 0                    |
| CPP-17-ii   | 45.9                 | 54.1                 |
| CPP-17-iii  | 26.6                 | 73.4                 |
| CPP-17-iv   | 8.7                  | 91.3                 |
| CPP-17-v    | 6.4                  | 93.6                 |
| CPP-17-vi   | 4.2                  | 95.8                 |
| CPP-17-vii  | 2.1                  | 97.9                 |
| CPP-17-viii | 0                    | 100                  |



**Fig. S8** PXR D patterns of (a) CPP-17-i, (b) CPP-17-iv, and (c) CPP-17-viii.



**Fig. S9** (a) SEM image and (b) PXRD pattern of CPP-17-e-iv.