

Supporting Information

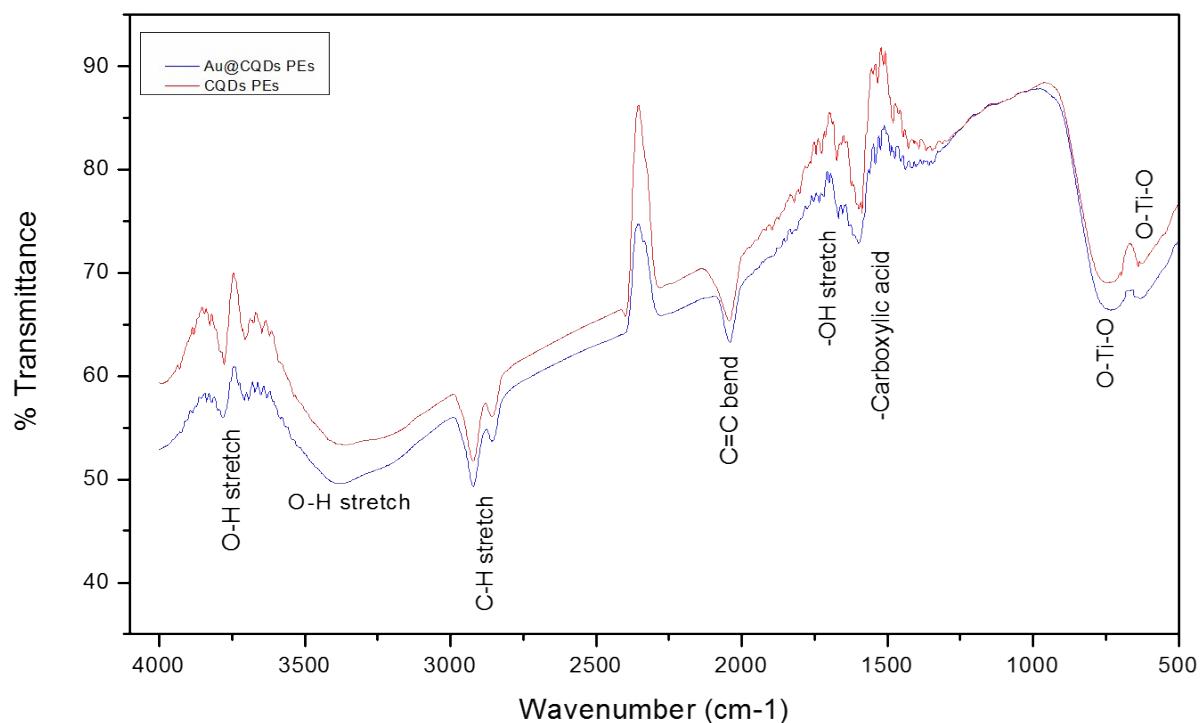


Fig. S1. FT-IR characteristics of CQDs and Au@CQDs PEs.

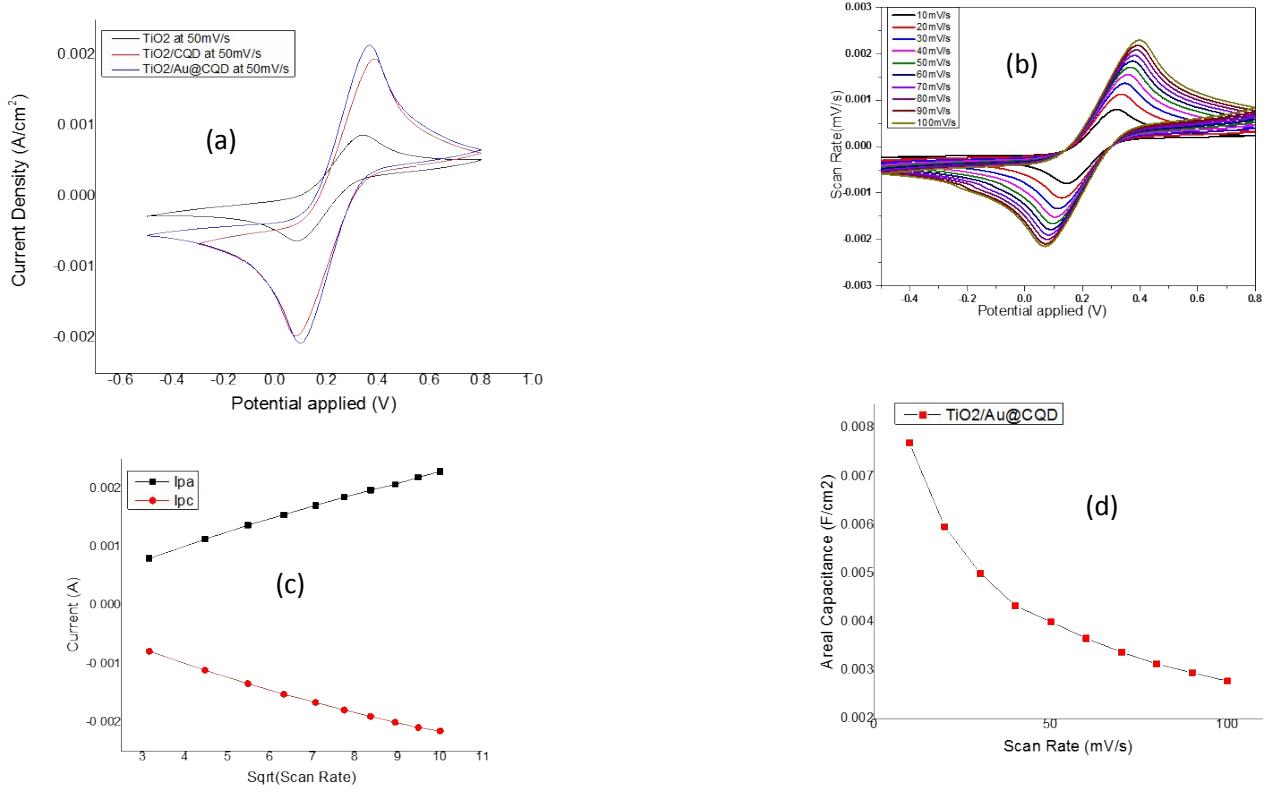


Fig.S2. (a) Cyclic voltammetric analysis (current density) of TiO_2 , CQD/ TiO_2 and $\text{Au}@\text{CQDs}/\text{TiO}_2$ PEs, (b) scan rate study, (c) current vs. $(\text{scan rate})^{1/2}$ and (d) areal capacitance of $\text{Au}@\text{CQDs}$ PEs towards ferri/ferro redox probe.

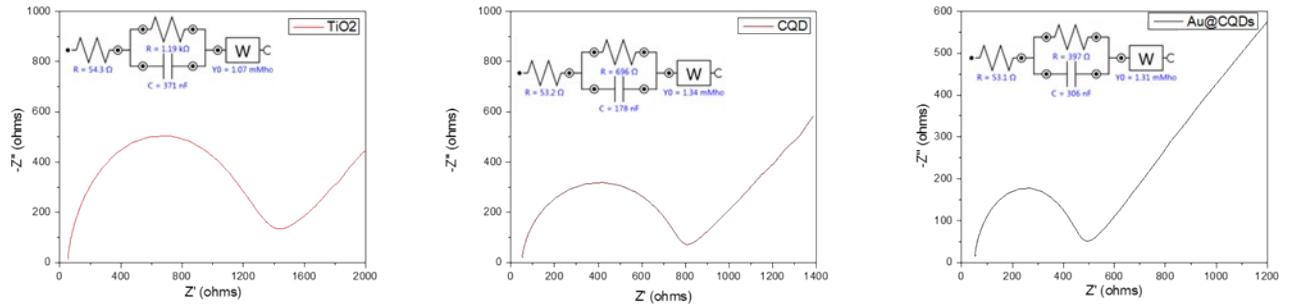
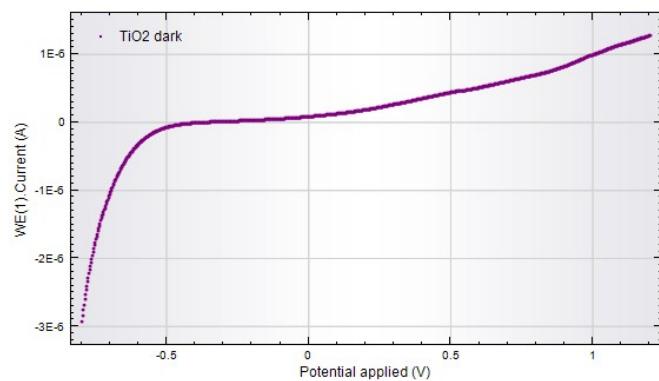
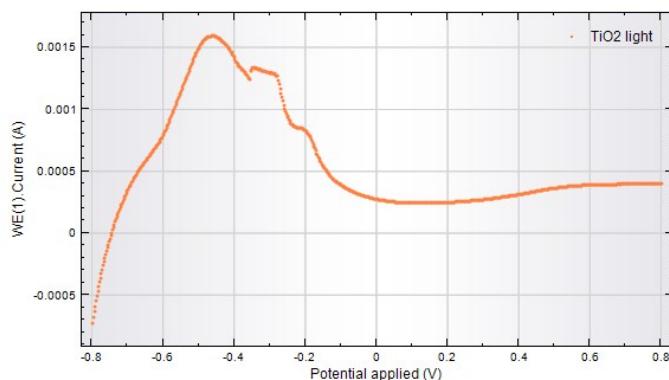
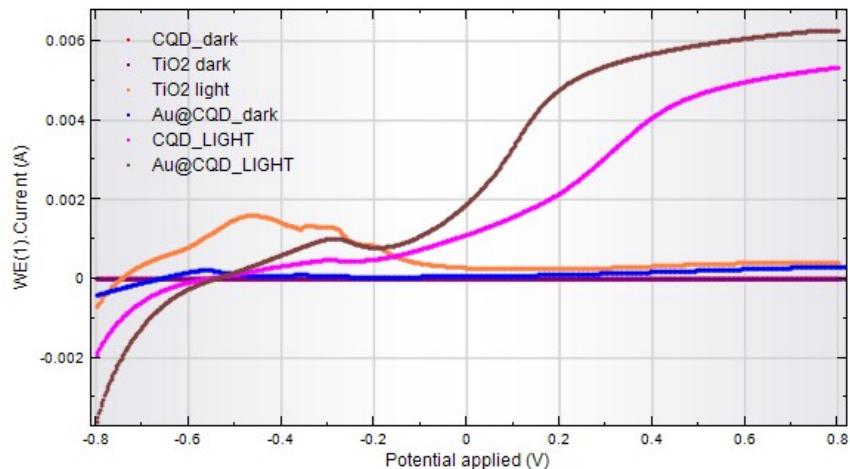
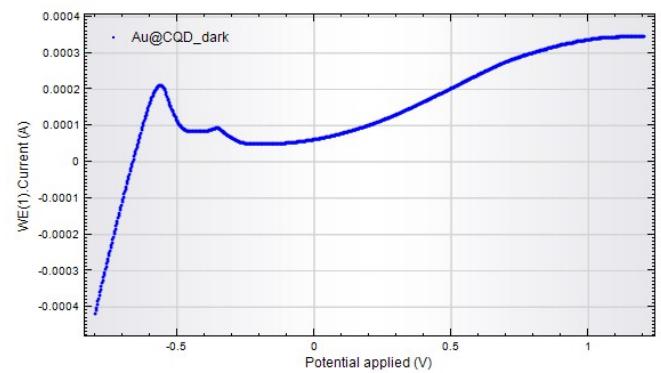
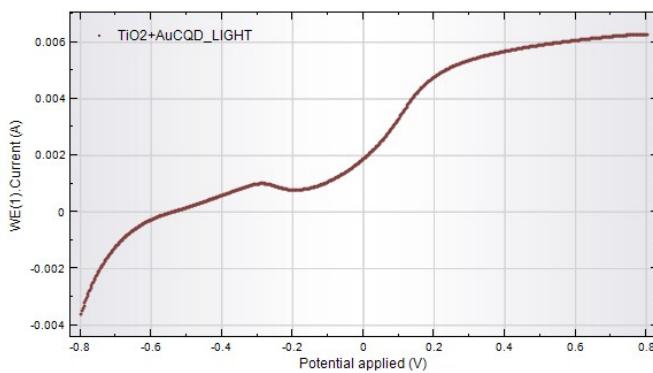
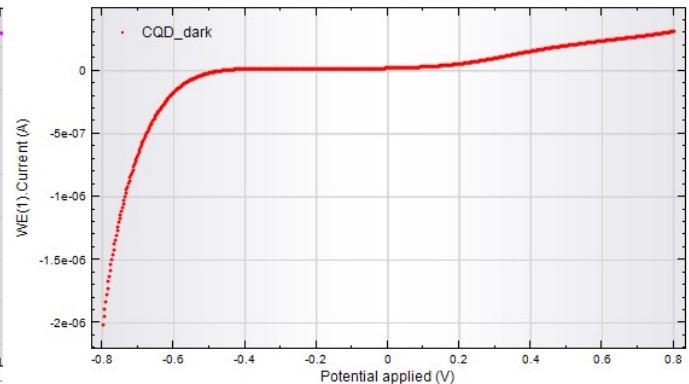
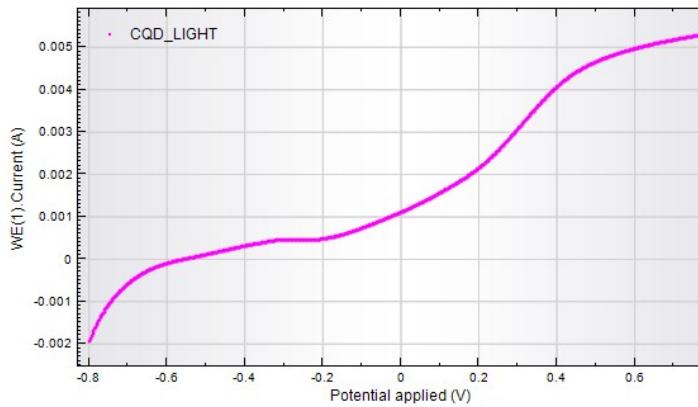


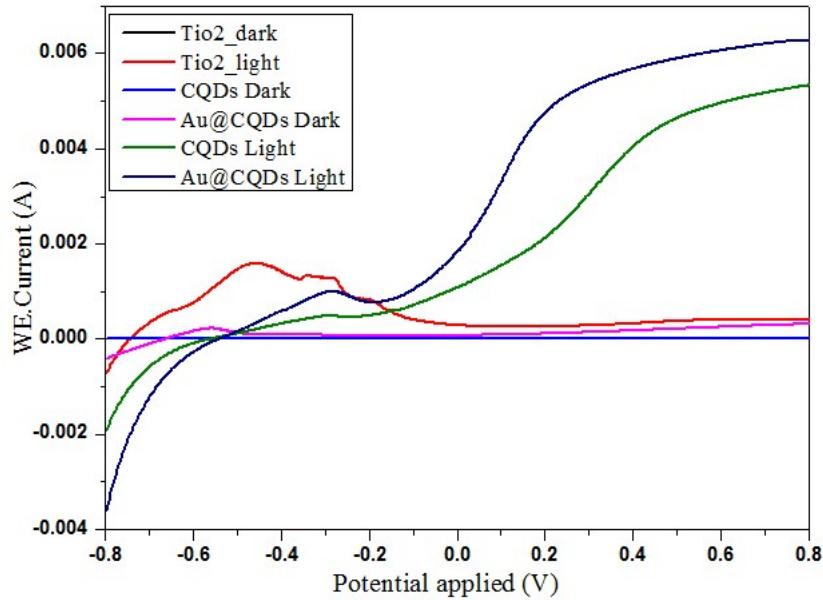
Fig. S3. Electrochemical impedance spectroscopy (EIS) and associated Nyquist plot for bare, CQDs and $\text{Au}@\text{CQDs}$ PEs.

Original Results from system:

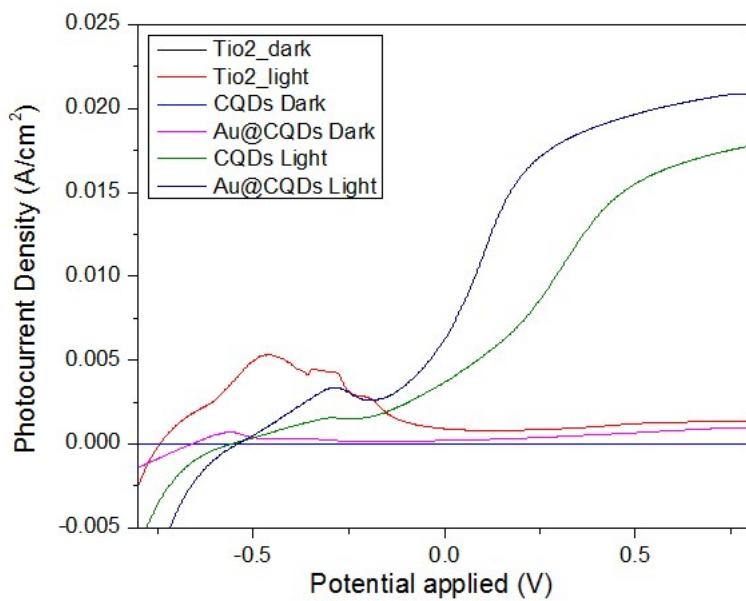




LSV Comparison Plots in terms of Current



LSV comparison plots in terms of current density



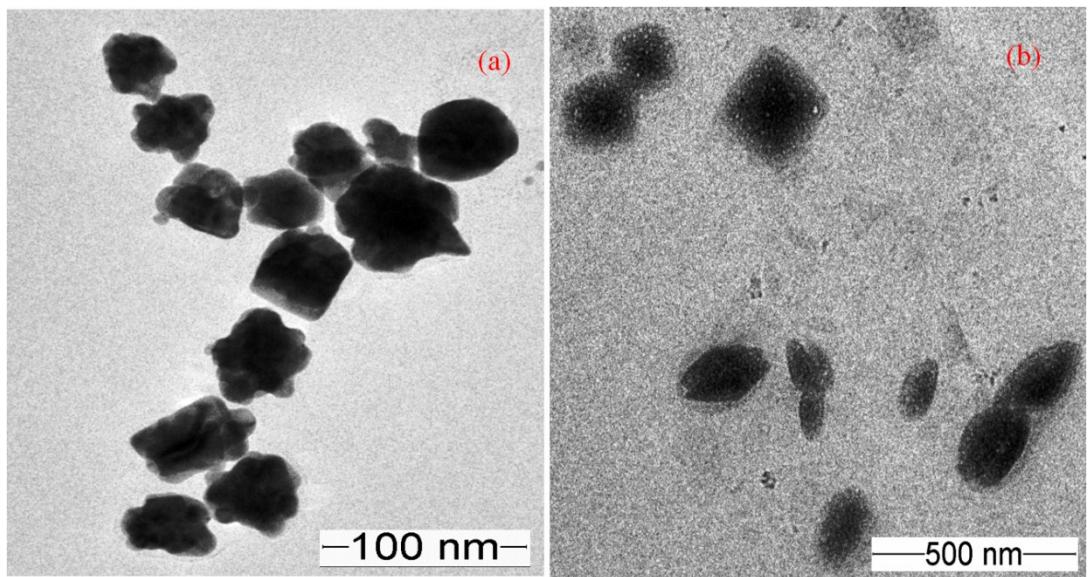


Fig. S4. HR-TEM micrographs for Au@CQDs.

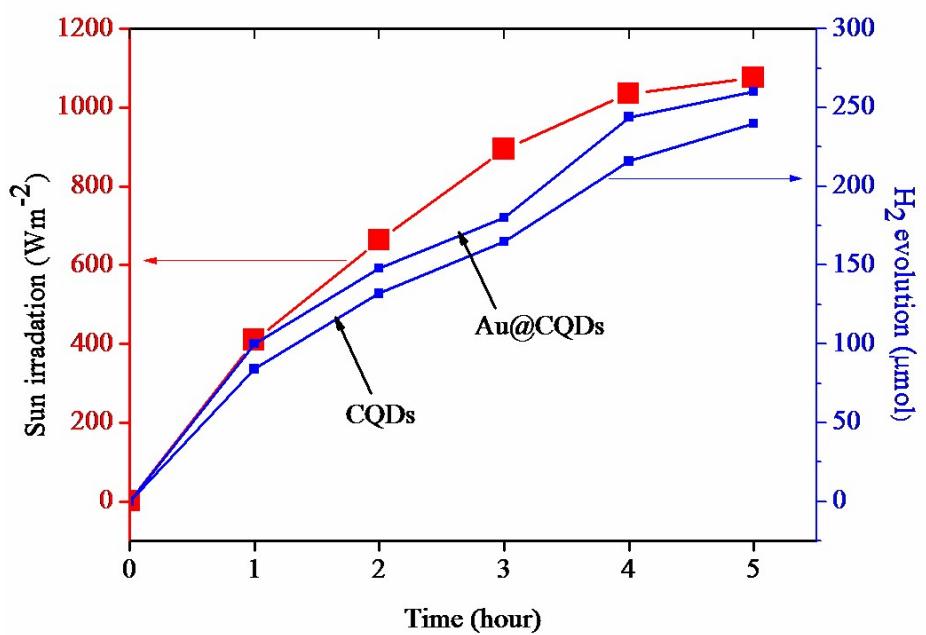


Fig. S5. Effect of sunlight flux (watt/m^2) on hydrogen production.