## **Supplementary Information**

## p-type Cu<sub>2</sub>O as an effective interlayer between CdS photocatalyst and NiO<sub>x</sub> cocatalyst to promote photocatalytic hydrogen production

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	Cu(CH <sub>3</sub> CO O) <sub>2</sub>	TEOA (98%)	PEG40 0	Ligh t	Illuminatio n time	$H_2(mmol g^{-1} h ^{-1})$
CdS	50 μL	10 ml	1 g		1 h	67.02
CdS	100 µl	10 ml	1 g		1 h	99.94
CdS	150 μL	10 ml	1 g	$\checkmark$	1 h	85.34
CdS	200 µl	10 ml	1 g	$\checkmark$	1 h	65.51

 Table S1 Different amount of load on CdS for first step comparison

Table S2 Hydrogen production contrast with or without sacrificial agent.

	Cu (CH3COO )2	Ni (CH3COO )2	TEOA (98%)	PEG40 0	Ligh t	Illuminatio n time	HER (mmol g <sup>-1</sup> h <sup>-</sup> <sup>1</sup> )
1		$\checkmark$				1h	46.07
2	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$		$\checkmark$	1h	154.27



Fig.S1 Outdoor equipment of sunlight-driven water splitting by  $NiO_x/Cu_2O/CdS$  composite.



Fig.S2 XRD patterns of  $NiO_x/Cu_2O/CdS$  and CdS.



Fig.S3 Mott-Schottky plots of CdS.



**Fig.S4** plots of  $(\alpha hv)^2$  vs hv of CdS.



Fig.S5 Photoluminescence spectra of CdS, NiO<sub>x</sub>/CdS and NiO<sub>x</sub>/Cu<sub>2</sub>O/CdS.



Fig.S6 Transient luminescence spectrum of CdS, NiO<sub>x</sub>/CdS and NiO<sub>x</sub>/Cu<sub>2</sub>O/CdS.



Fig.S7 Photocurrrent of CdS, NiO<sub>x</sub>/CdS and NiO<sub>x</sub>/Cu<sub>2</sub>O/CdS.



Fig.S8 Amount of hydrogen of NiO<sub>x</sub>/Cu<sub>2</sub>O/CdS by sunlight-driven.