

# Electronic Supplementary Information

Just add water to split water: ultra-high-performance bifunctional  
electrocatalyst by eco-friendly heterointerfacing Ni-Co diselenides

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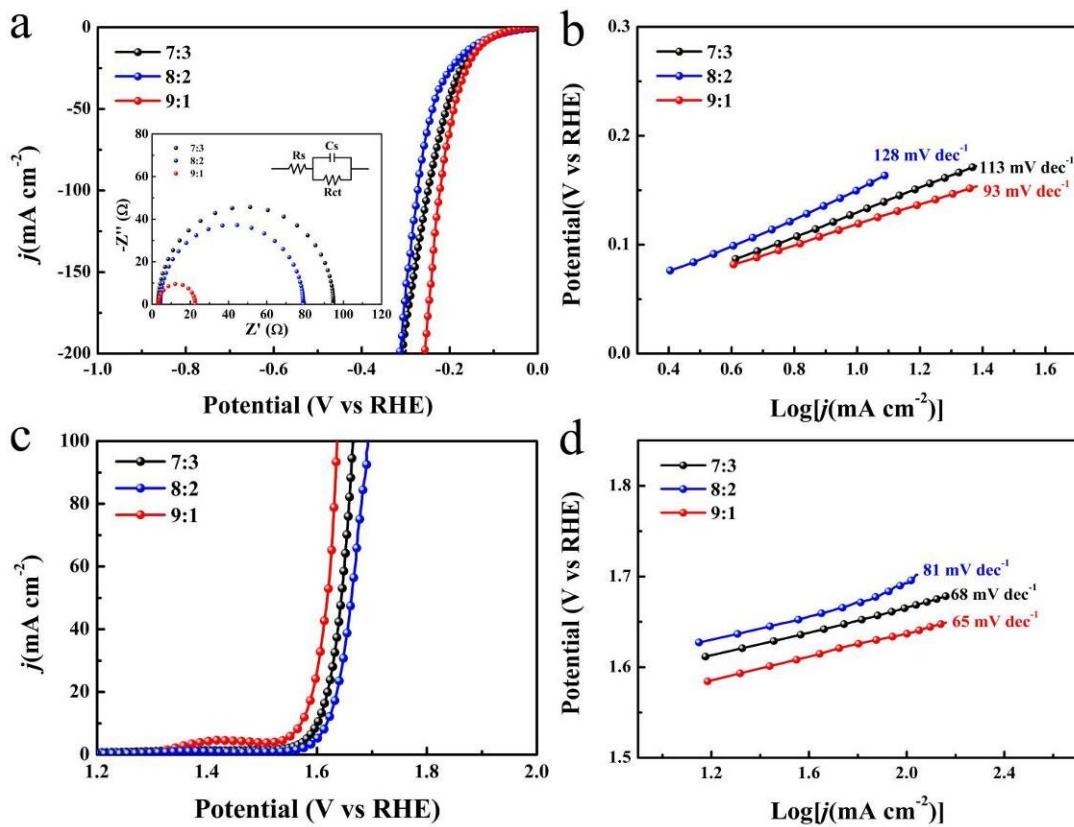
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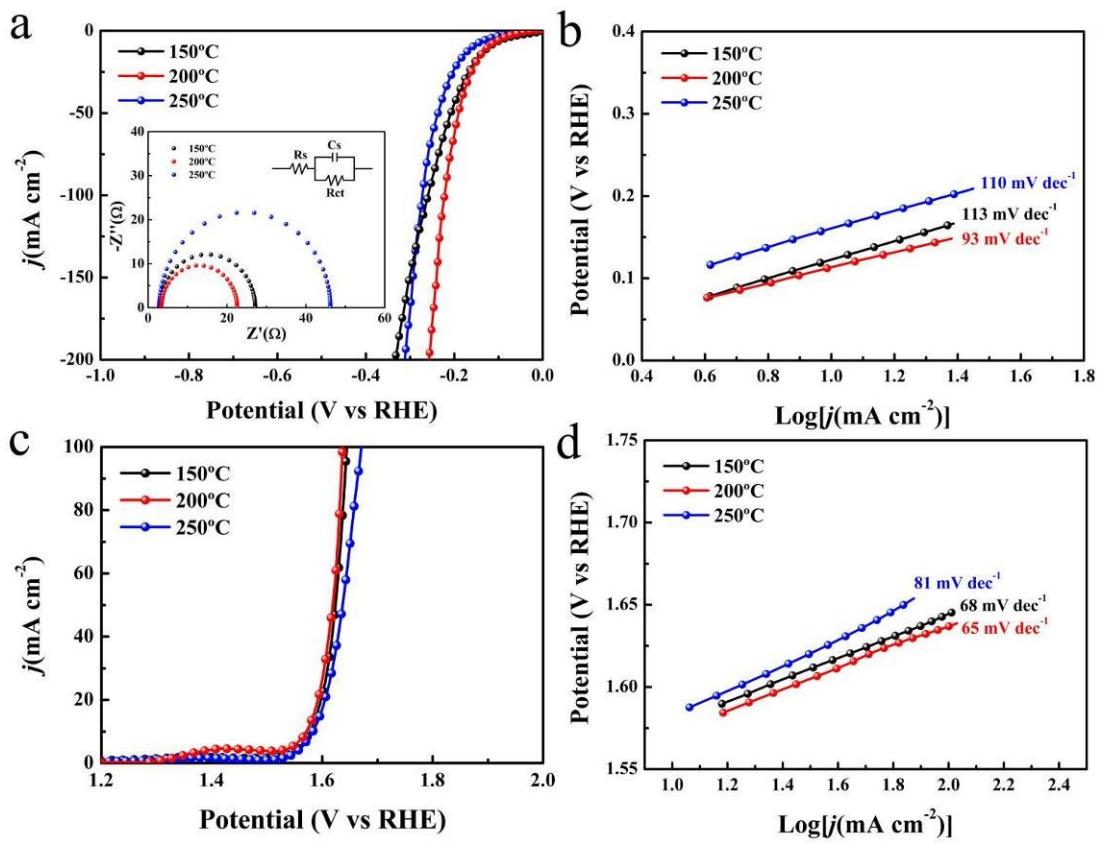
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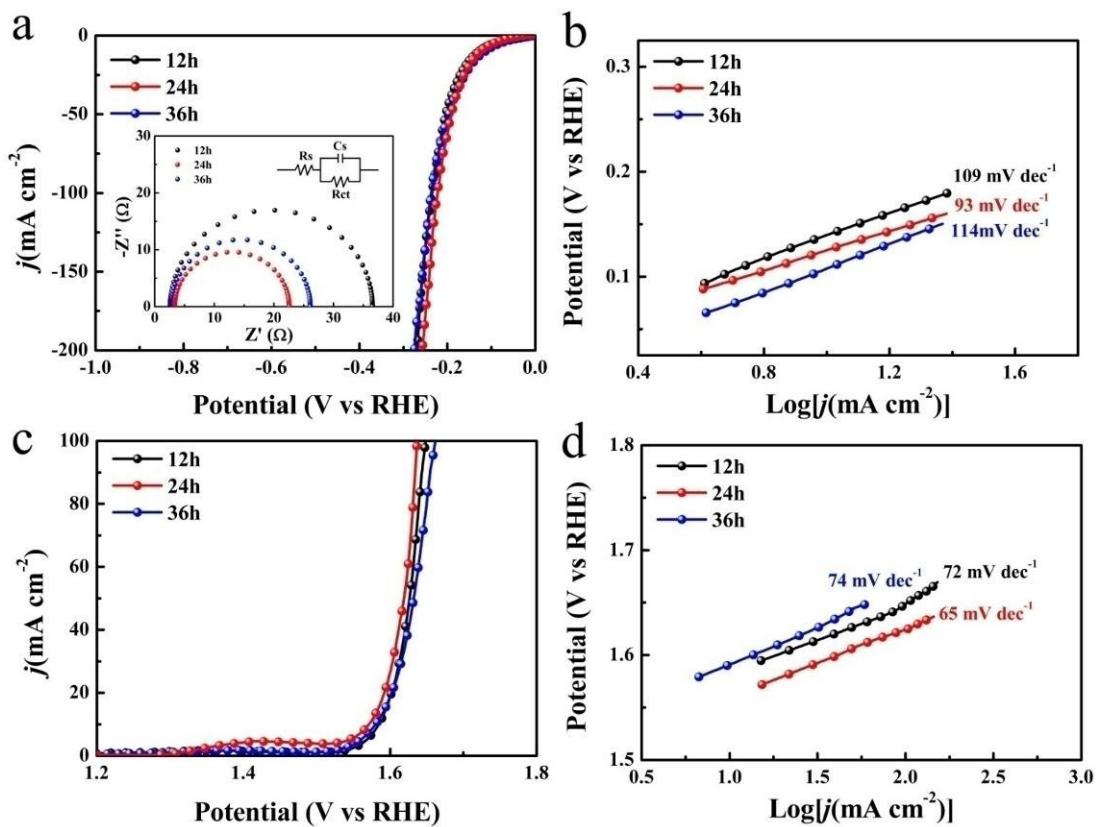
<sup>d</sup>Centre for Materials Science, Queensland University of Technology, Brisbane, QLD 4000, Australia



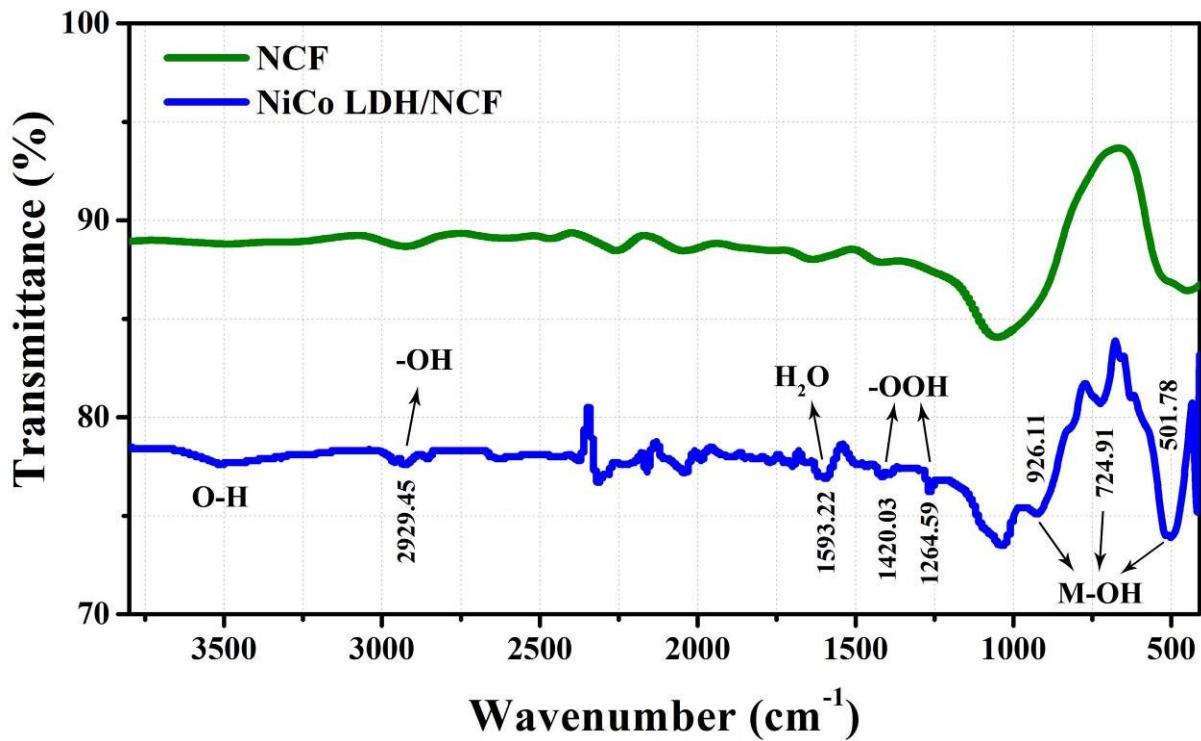
**Figure S1.** The effects of different Ni/Co alloy ratio on the HER and OER activity of the in-situ fabricated NiCo LDH/NCF. (a) Polarization curves in 1 M KOH for the HER with a scan rate of  $1 \text{ mV s}^{-1}$  and the insert is the corresponding Nyquist plots, (b) The Tafel plots corresponding to HER polarization curves, (c) Polarization curves in 1 M KOH for the OER with a scan rate of  $1 \text{ mV s}^{-1}$ , and (d) The Tafel plots corresponding to OER polarization curves.



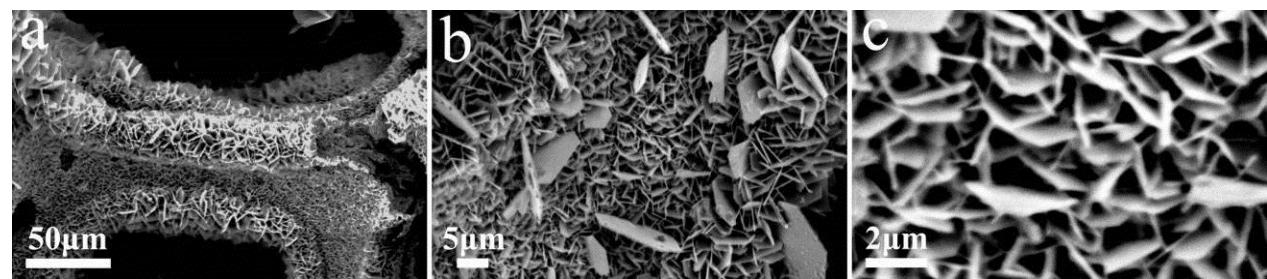
**Figure S2.** The HER and OER performances of in-situ NiCo LDH/NCF fabricated with different reaction temperature. (a) Polarization curves in 1 M KOH for the HER with a scan rate of 1 mV s<sup>-1</sup>, and the insert is the corresponding Nyquist plots, (b) The Tafel plots corresponding to HER polarization curves, (c) Polarization curves in 1 M KOH for the OER with a scan rate of 1 mV s<sup>-1</sup>, (d) The Tafel plots corresponding to OER polarization curves.



**Figure S3.** The HER and OER performances of in-situ NiCo LDH/NCF fabricated with different reaction time. (a) Polarization curves in 1 M KOH for the HER with a scan rate of  $1 \text{ mV s}^{-1}$  and the insert is the corresponding Nyquist plots, (b) The Tafel plots corresponding to HER polarization curves, (c) Polarization curves in 1 M KOH for the OER with a scan rate of  $1 \text{ mV s}^{-1}$  and (d) The Tafel plots corresponding to OER polarization curves.

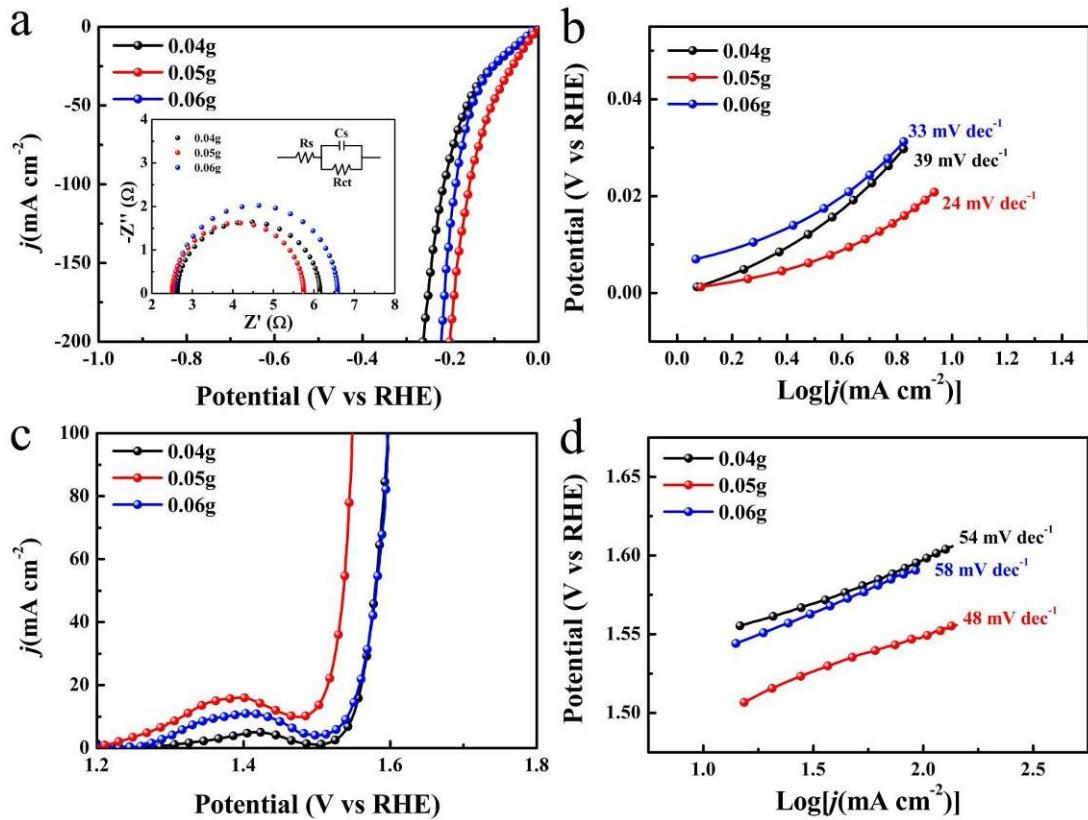


**Figure S4.** The FTIR spectrum of NiCo LDH sprouted from NCF surface.

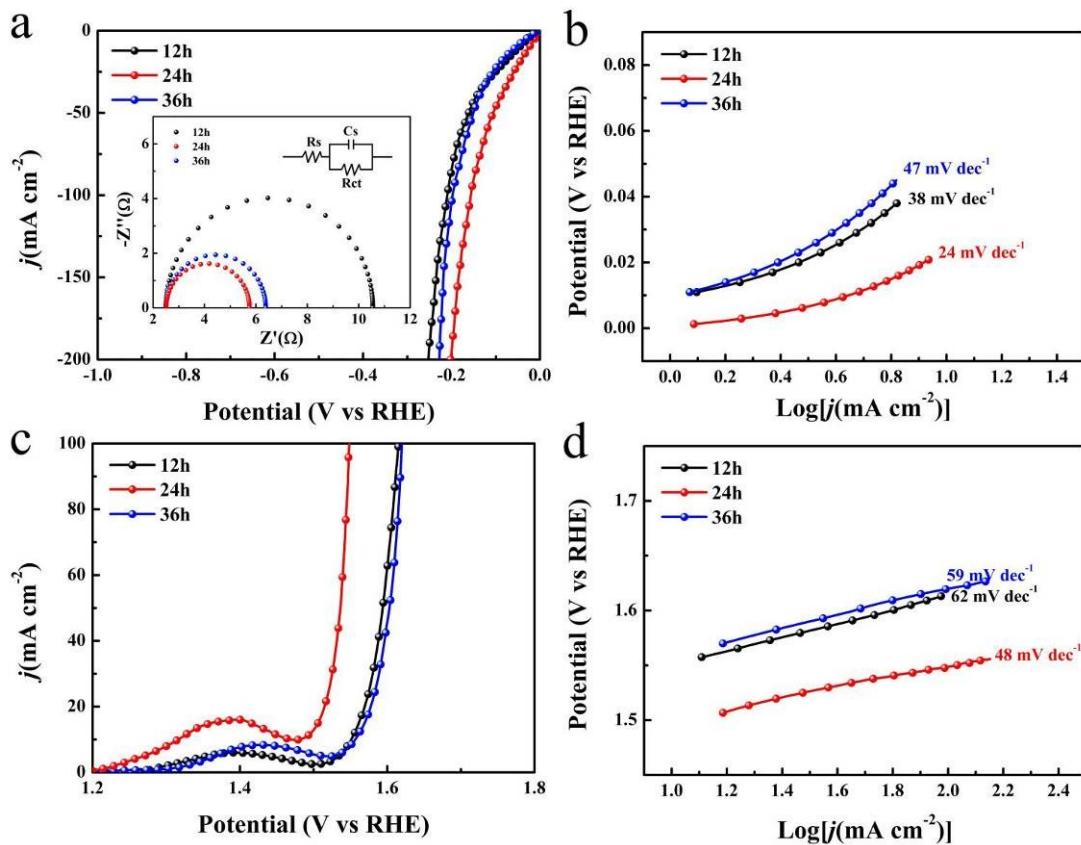


**Figure S5.** The SEM images of in-situ NiCo LDH/NCF fabricated with optimized reaction conditions.

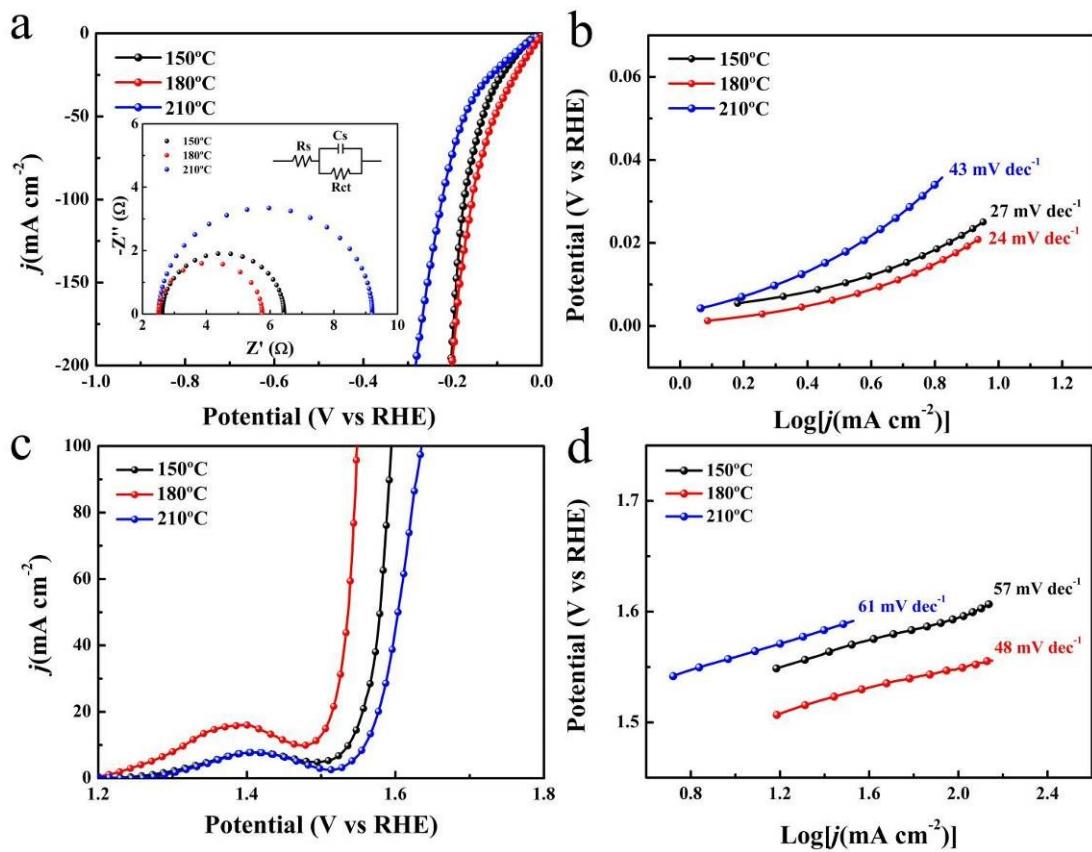
(a) and (b) Low resolution SEM image, and (c) High resolution SEM image.



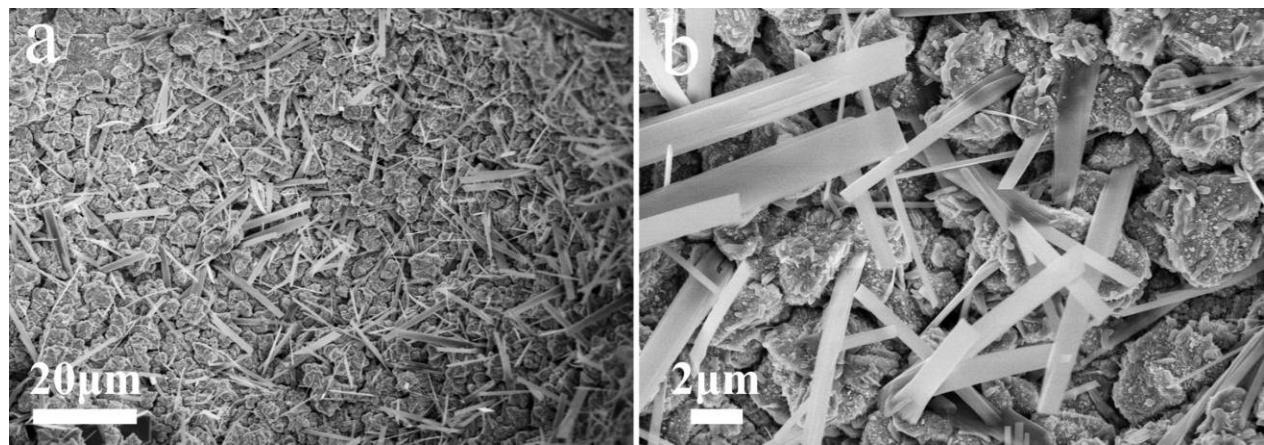
**Figure S6.** The effects of selenium powder amount on the HER and OER activity during selenization. (a) Polarization curves in 1 M KOH for the HER with a scan rate of  $1 \text{ mV s}^{-1}$  and the insert is the corresponding Nyquist plots, (b) The Tafel plots corresponding to HER polarization curves, (c) Polarization curves in 1 M KOH for the OER with a scan rate of  $1 \text{ mV s}^{-1}$  and (d) The Tafel plots corresponding to OER polarization curves.



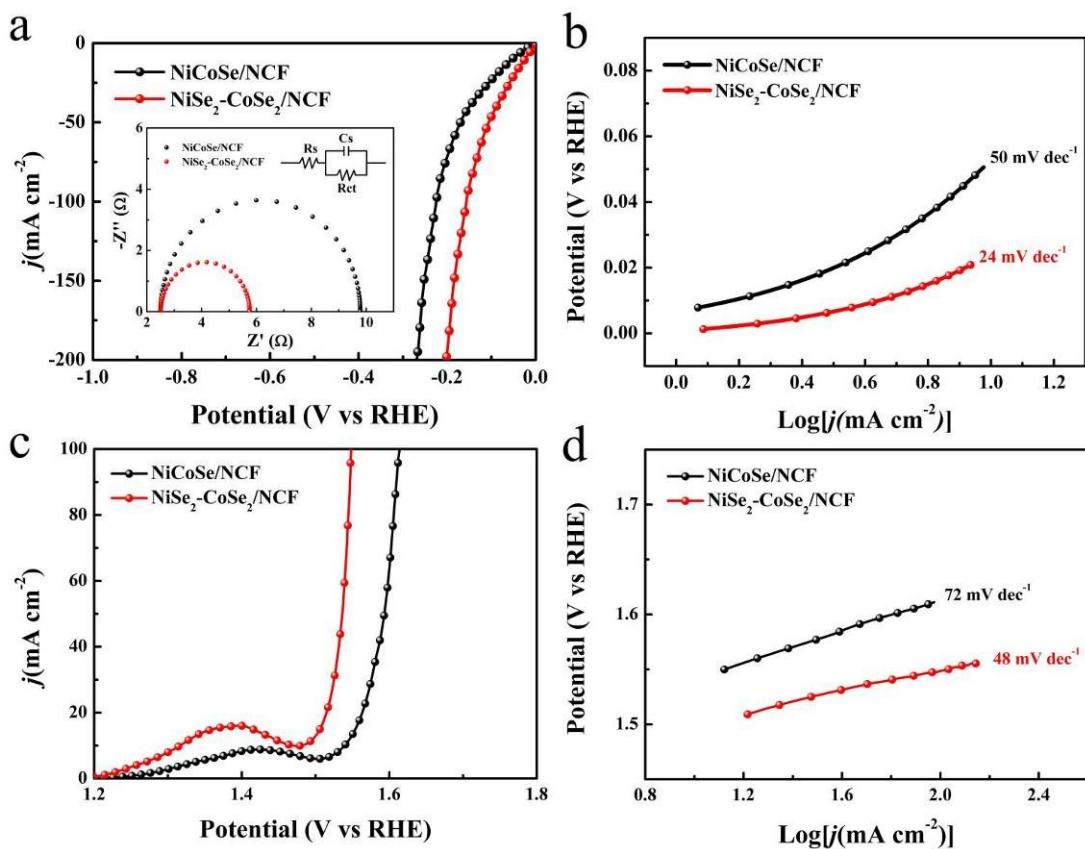
**Figure S7.** The HER and OER performances of NiSe<sub>2</sub>-CoSe<sub>2</sub>/NCF based on the in-situ NiCo LDH/NCF fabricated with different reaction time. (a) Polarization curves in 1 M KOH for the HER with a scan rate of 1 mV s<sup>-1</sup> and the insert is the corresponding Nyquist plots, (b) The Tafel plots corresponding to HER polarization curves, (c) Polarization curves in 1 M KOH for the OER with a scan rate of 1 mV s<sup>-1</sup> and (d) The Tafel plots corresponding to OER polarization curves.



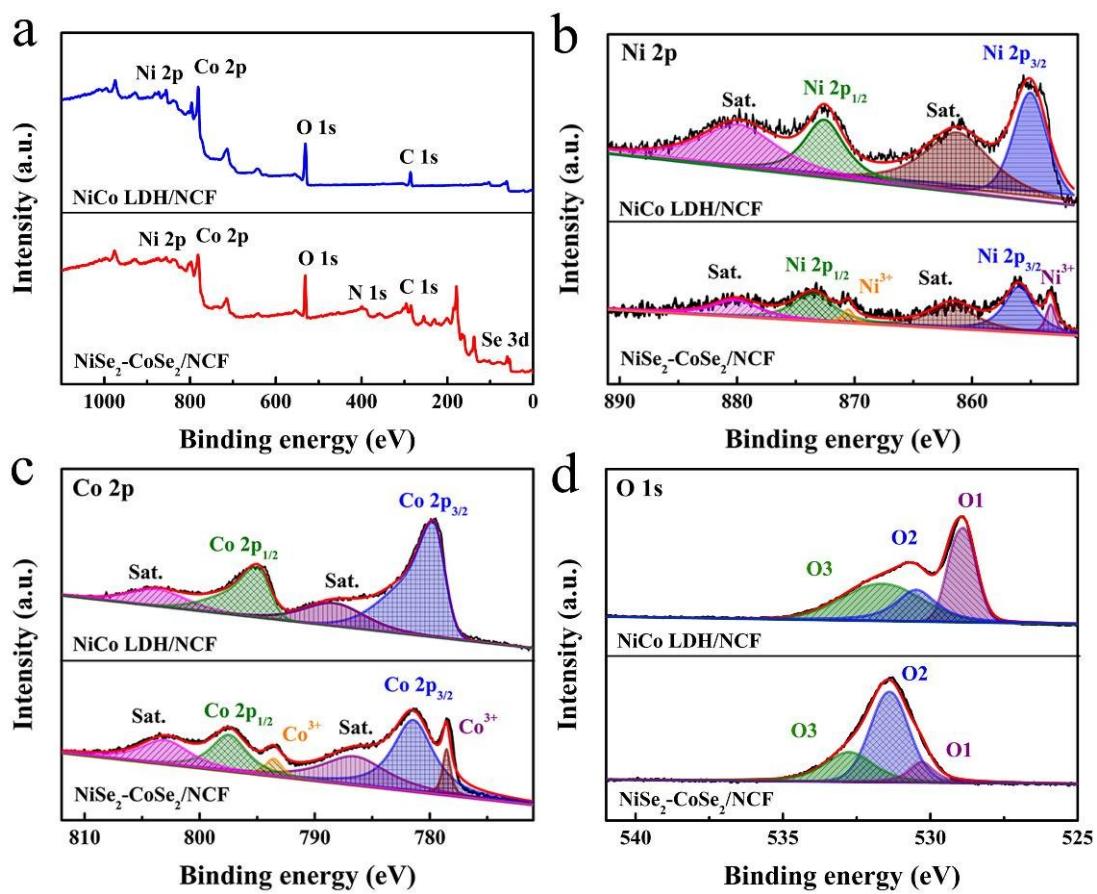
**Figure S8.** The HER and OER performances of NiSe<sub>2</sub>-CoSe<sub>2</sub>/NCF based on the in-situ NiCo LDH/NCF fabricated with different reaction temperature. (a) Polarization curves in 1 M KOH for the HER with a scan rate of 1 mV s<sup>-1</sup> and the insert is the corresponding Nyquist plots, (b) The Tafel plots corresponding to HER polarization curves, (c) Polarization curves in 1 M KOH for the OER with a scan rate of 1 mV s<sup>-1</sup> and (d) The Tafel plots corresponding to OER polarization curves.



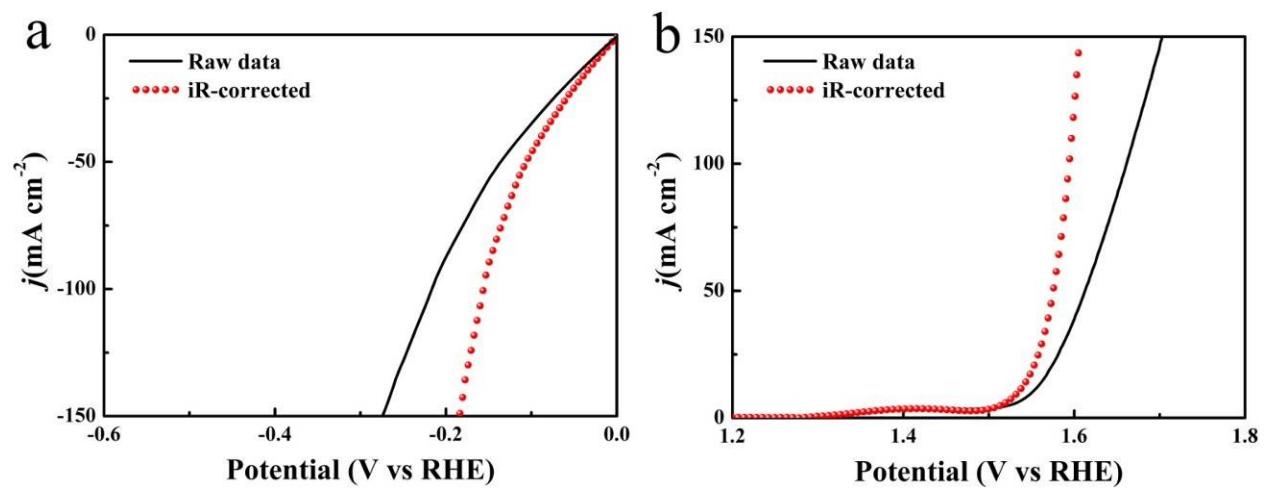
**Figure S9.** The SEM images of NiCoSe<sub>2</sub>/NCF without the in-situ hydrothermal treatment. (a) Low resolution SEM image and (b) High resolution SEM image.



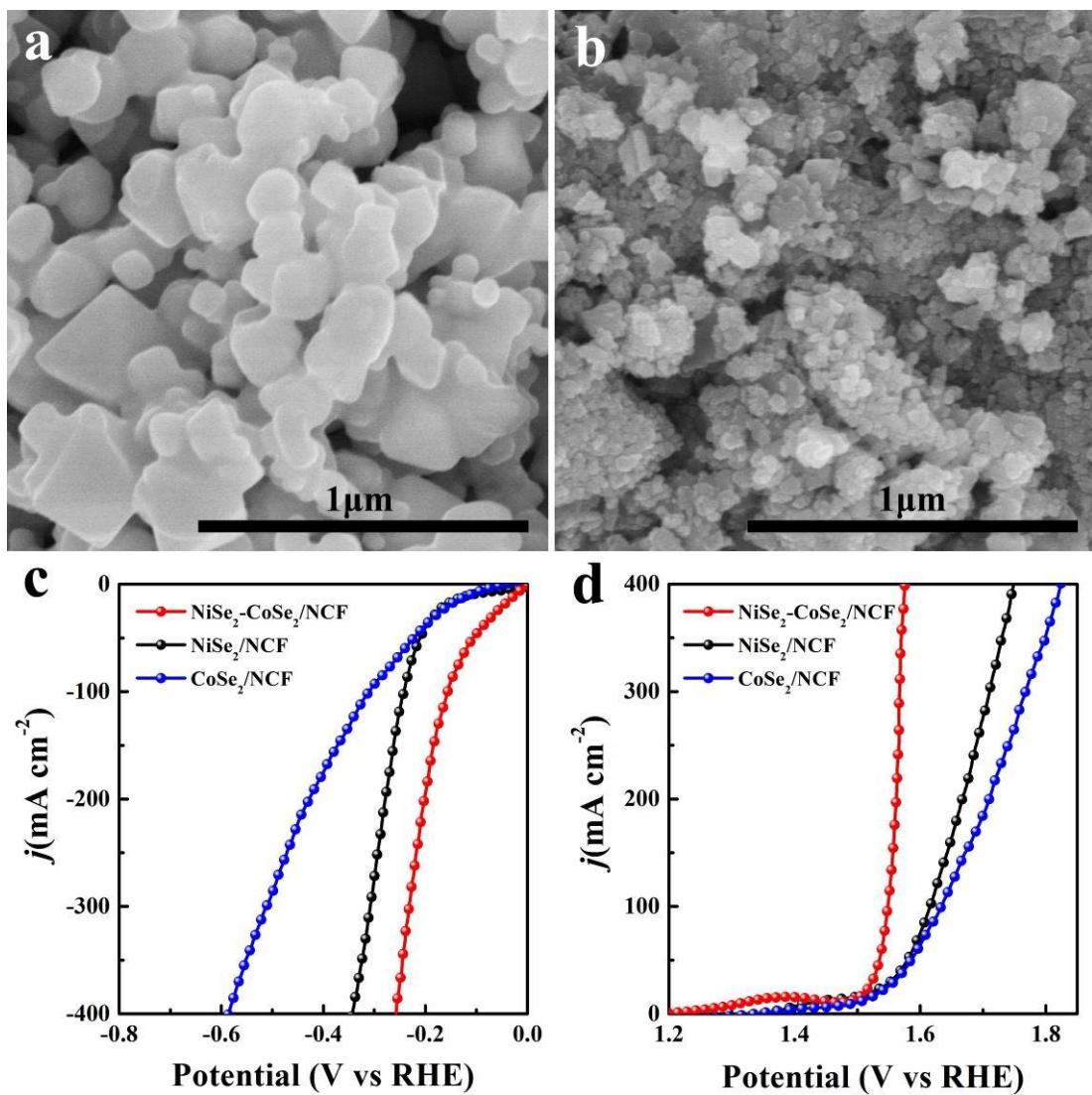
**Figure S10.** The effects of in-situ hydrothermal treatment on the HER and OER activity of the nickel-cobalt selenides. (a) Polarization curves in 1 M KOH for the HER with a scan rate of 1 mV s<sup>-1</sup> and the insert is the corresponding Nyquist plots, (b) The Tafel plots corresponding to HER polarization curves, (c) Polarization curves in 1 M KOH for the OER with a scan rate of 1 mV s<sup>-1</sup>, and (d) The Tafel plots corresponding to OER polarization curves.



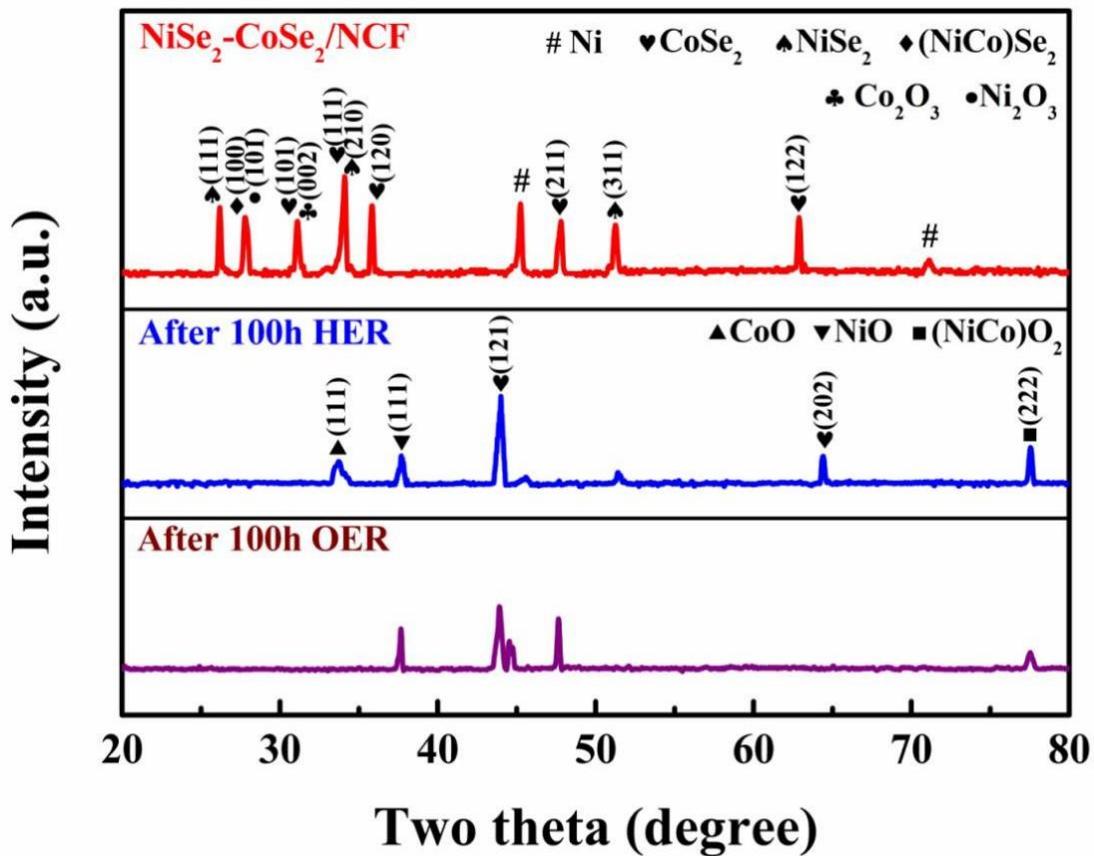
**Figure S11.** High resolution XPS spectra of NiCo LDH/NCF and NiSe<sub>2</sub>-CoSe<sub>2</sub>/NCF. (a) The whole spectra, (b) Ni 2p, (c) Co 2p, and (d) O 1s.



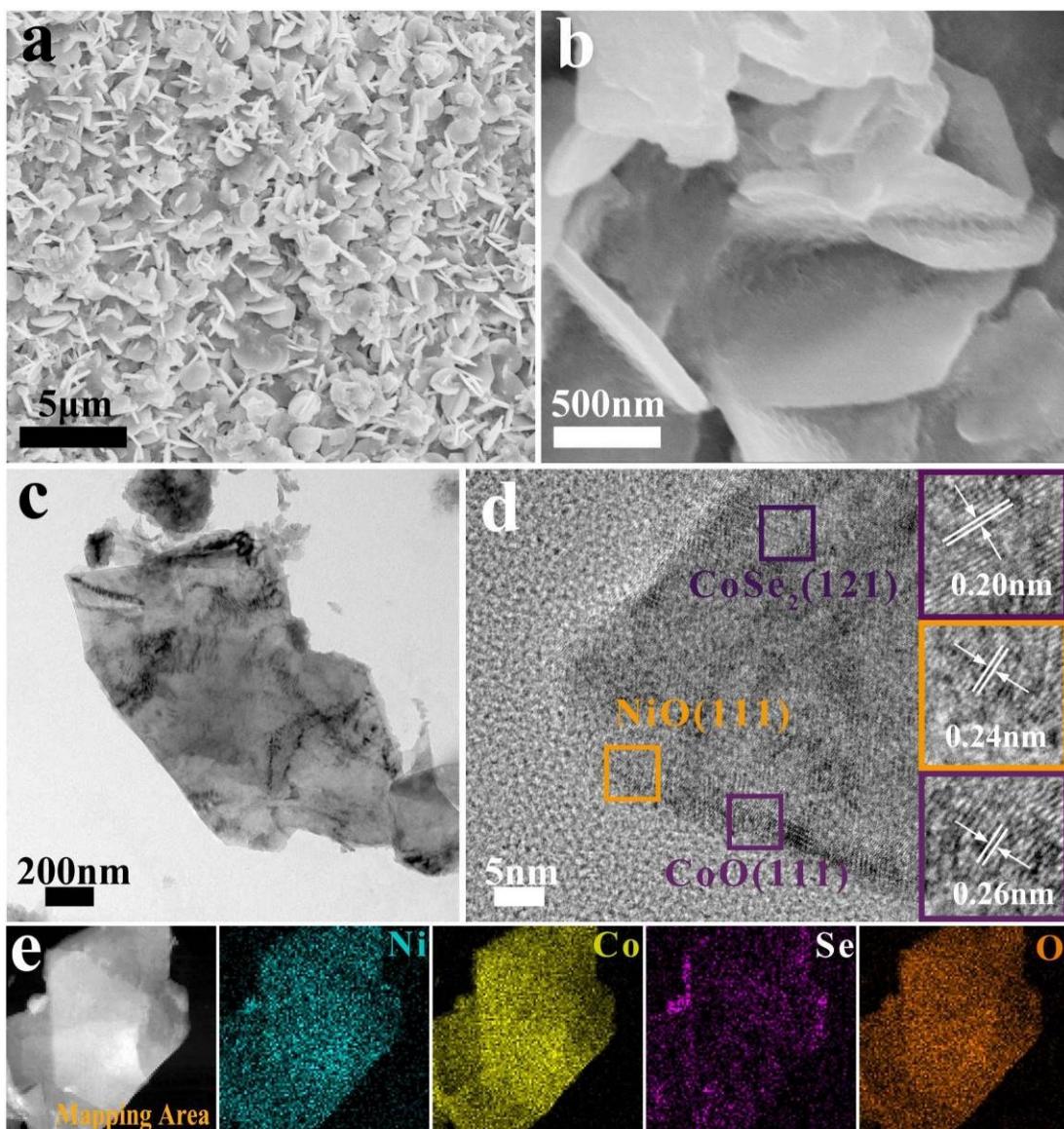
**Figure S12.** The Polarization curves in 1 M KOH before iR-corrected of NiSe<sub>2</sub>-CoSe<sub>2</sub>/NCF. (a) The LSV curves for the HER with a scan rate of 1 mV s<sup>-1</sup>, and (b) The LSV curves for the OER with a scan rate of 1 mV s<sup>-1</sup>.



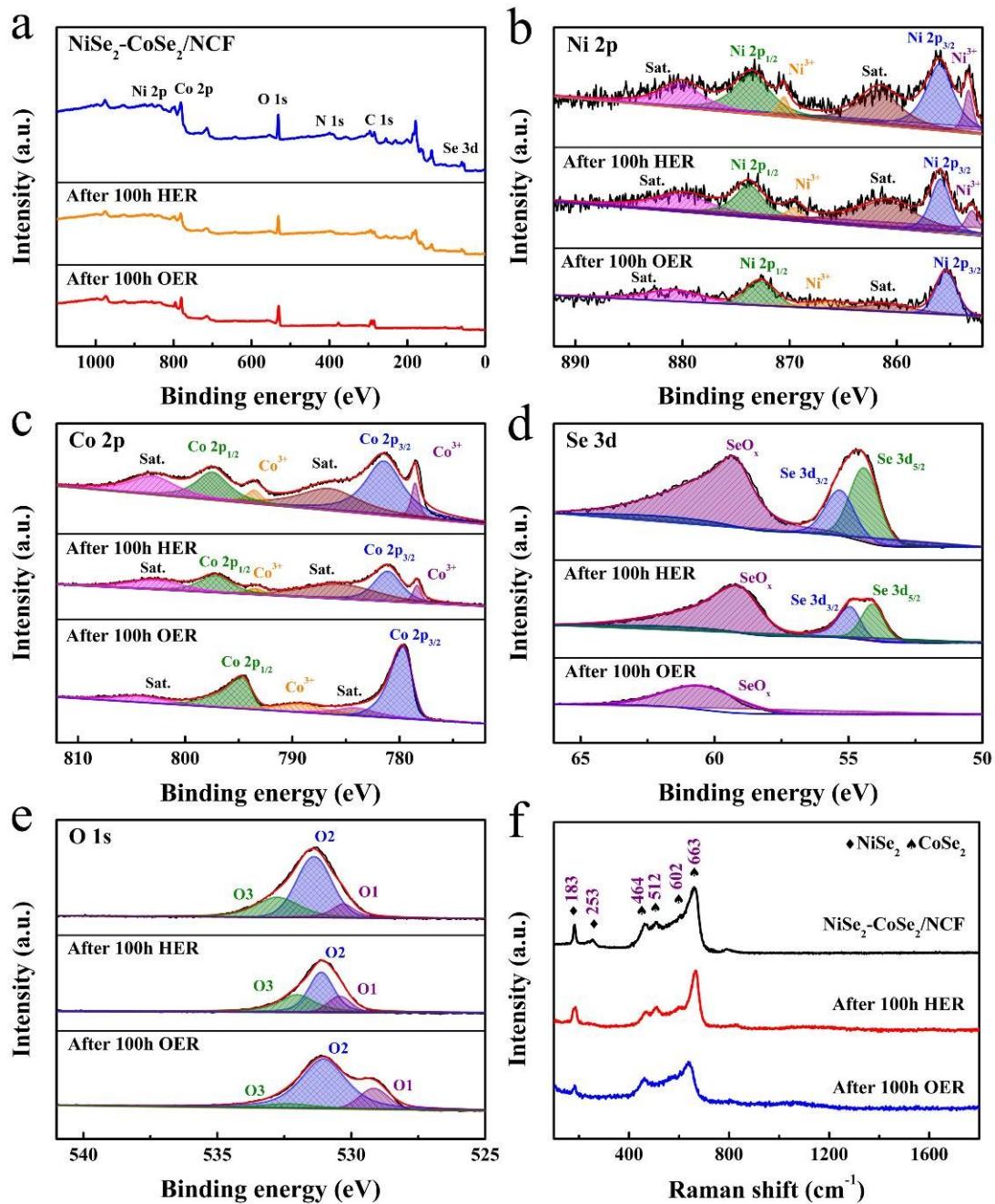
**Figure S13.** The HER and OER performances of  $\text{NiSe}_2/\text{NCF}$  and  $\text{CoSe}_2/\text{NCF}$  catalysts.



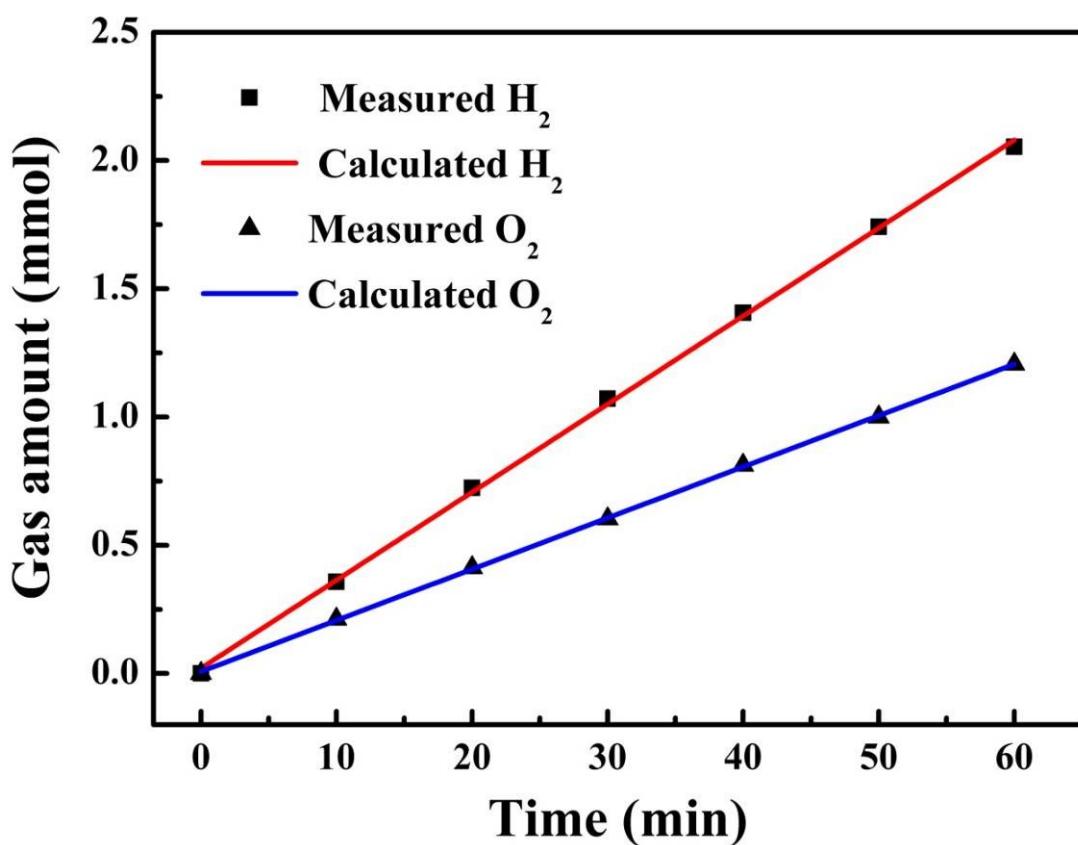
**Figure S14.** The XRD patterns of the NiSe<sub>2</sub>-CoSe<sub>2</sub>/NCF catalysts after the long-term HER and OER processes in 1 M KOH solution at 10 mA cm<sup>-2</sup> for 100 hours.



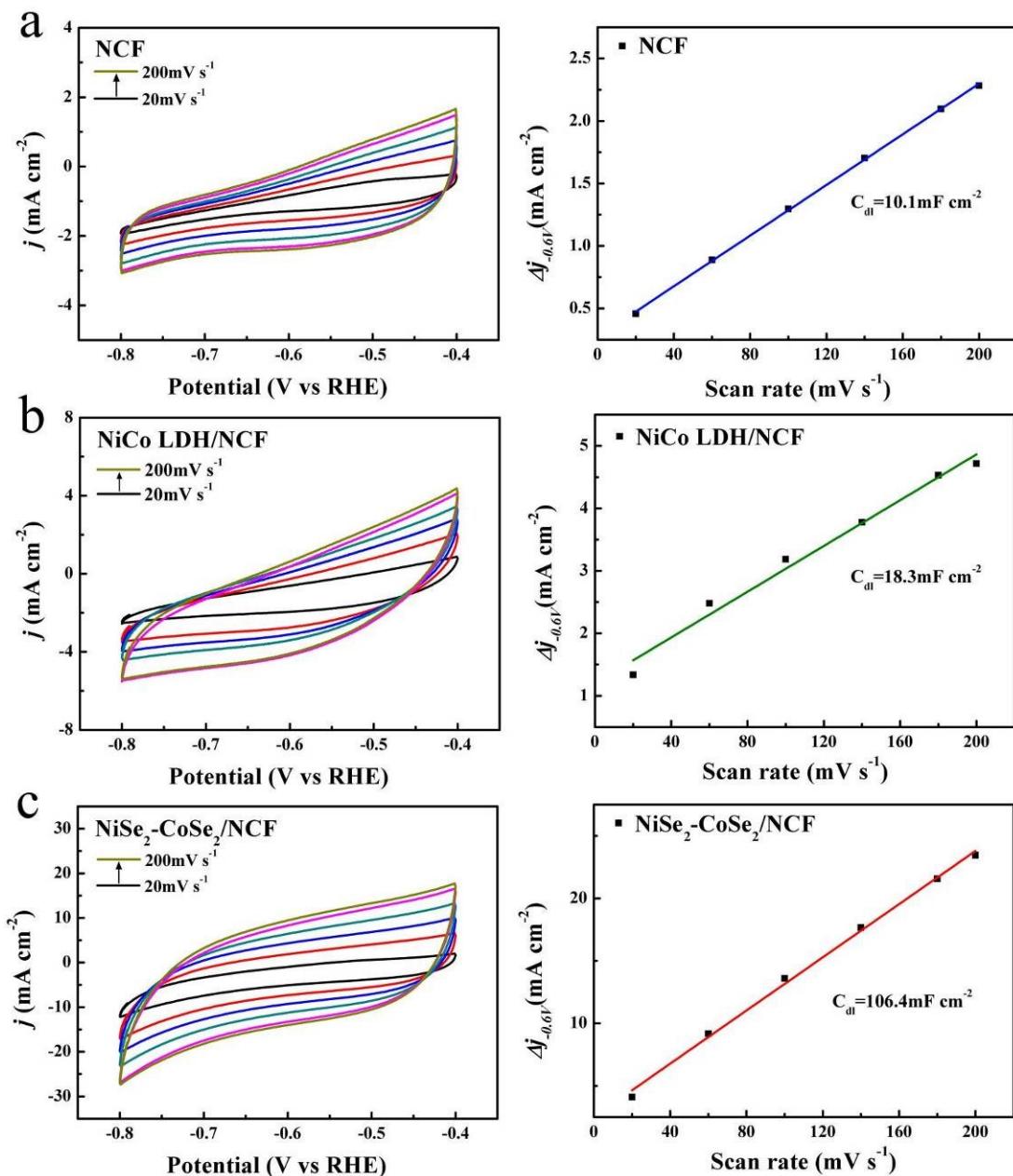
**Figure S15.** The morphology and crystal structures of NiSe<sub>2</sub>-CoSe<sub>2</sub>/NCF samples undergoing a HER process in 1 M KOH solution with  $j_{10}$  for 100 h. (a) Low and (b) High resolution SEM, (c) TEM image of NiSe<sub>2</sub>-CoSe<sub>2</sub>/NCF nanosheet, (d) High resolution TEM image, and (e) The elements mapping of a single nanosheet.



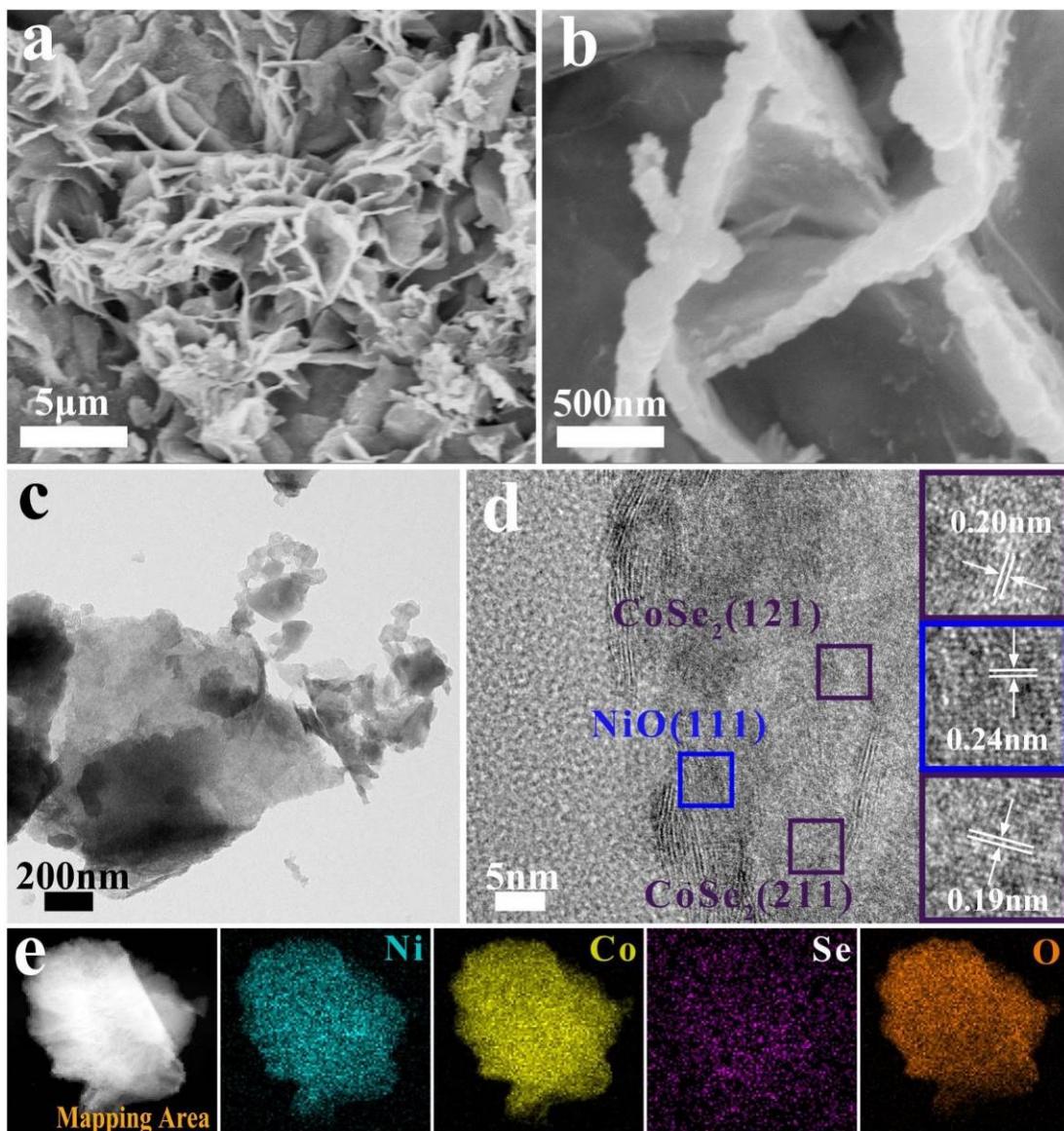
**Figure S16.** High resolution XPS spectra and the Raman spectra of the  $\text{NiSe}_2\text{-CoSe}_2/\text{NCF}$  undergoing the HER and the OER process in 1 M KOH at  $j_{10}$  for 100 h, respectively. (a) The whole spectra, (b) Ni 2p, (c) Co 2p, (d) Se 3d, (e) O 1s, and (f) Raman spectra.



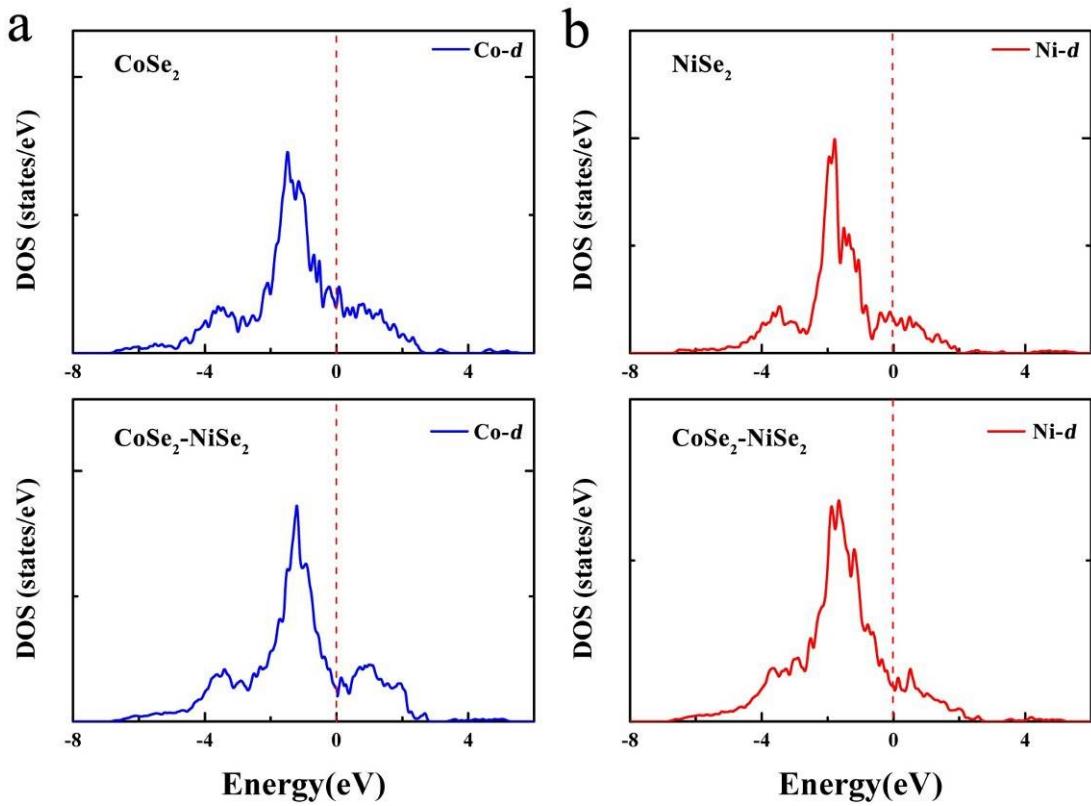
**Figure S17.** Amounts of gas collected and calculated from the electron quantity of NiSe<sub>2</sub>-CoSe<sub>2</sub>/NCF during water splitting, pushing with a current density of  $j_{10}$ .



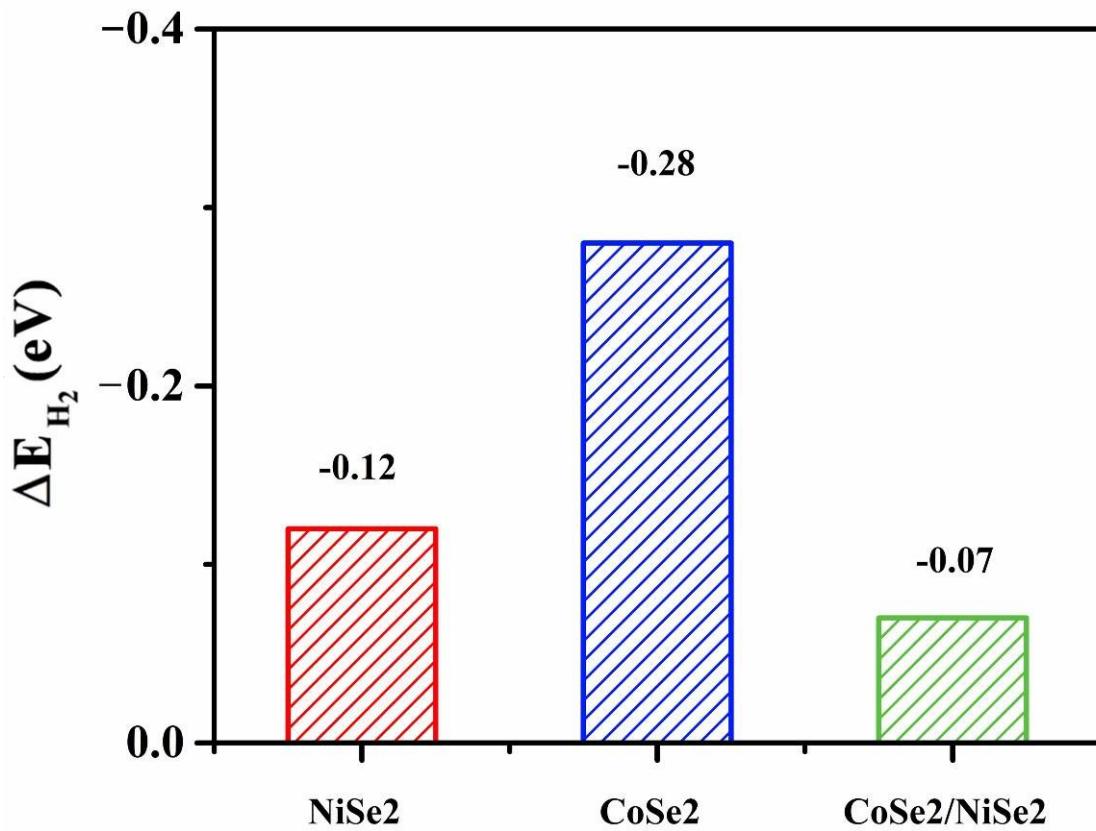
**Figure S18.** Cyclic voltammograms of the samples at a scan rate from 20 to 200  $\text{mV s}^{-1}$  in 1 M KOH (left) and the calculated  $C_{dl}$  (right), (a) NCF, (b) NiCo LDH/NCF, and (c) NiSe<sub>2</sub>-CoSe<sub>2</sub>/NCF.



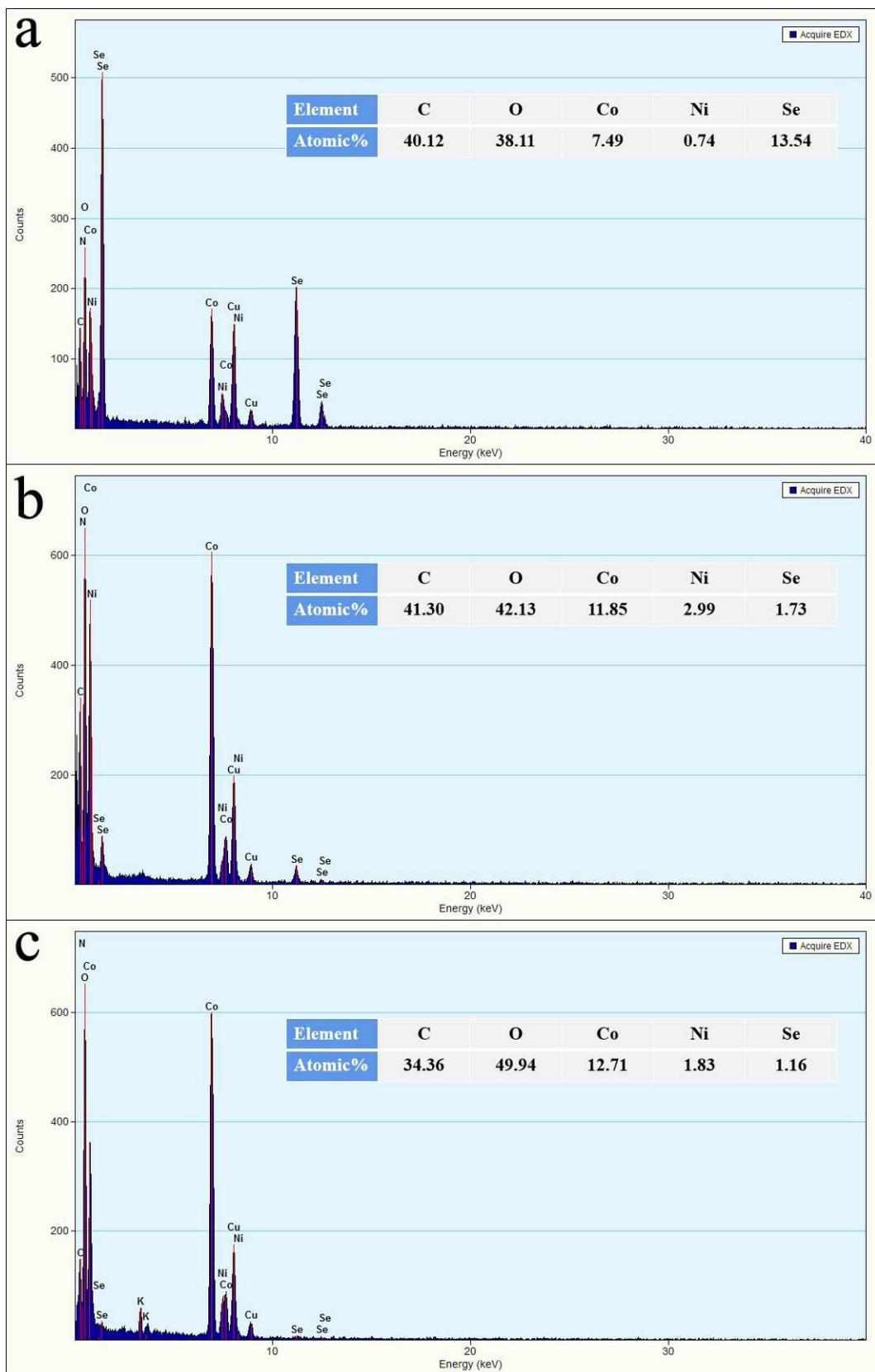
**Figure S19.** The morphology and crystal planes of NiSe<sub>2</sub>-CoSe<sub>2</sub>/NCF undergoing a OER process in 1 M KOH solution at  $j_{10}$  for 100 h. (a) Low and (b) High resolution SEM images, (c) Low resolution TEM image, (d) High resolution TEM image, and (e) The elements mapping of a single nanosheet.



**Figure S20.** The partial density of state before and after forming the heterojunction. (a) d-band of Co atoms, and (b) d-band of Ni atoms.



**Figure S21.** The comparison of the calculated  $H_2$  adsorption energy ( $|\Delta E_{H_2}|$ ) for the pure  $\text{CoSe}_2$ ,  $\text{NiSe}_2$  phases and heterointerface-forming  $\text{NiSe}_2\text{-CoSe}_2$  phase.



**Figure S22.** The TEM mode energy-dispersive X-ray (EDX) spectra of NiSe<sub>2</sub>-CoSe<sub>2</sub>/NCF catalyst undergoing electrocatalytic processes in 1 M KOH solution with  $j_{10}$  for 100 h. (a) The original, (b) After HER, and (c) After OER.

**Table S1.** The elements contents of different electrocatalysts.

Element	C1s	N1s	O1s	Ni2p	Co2p	Se3d
Atomic%						
<b>NCF</b>	54.62	/	33.12	2.64	9.62	/
<b>NiCo LDH/NCF</b>	34.26	/	42.12	6.67	16.95	/
<b>NiSe<sub>2</sub>-CoSe<sub>2</sub>/NCF</b>	15.84	9.58	42.04	3.42	17.38	11.74
<b>After 100 h HER</b>	/	3.92	57.32	5.02	21.95	11.79
<b>After 100 h OER</b>	/	/	75.47	2.58	20.27	1.68

**Table S2.** Elemental composition of the NiSe<sub>2</sub>-CoSe<sub>2</sub>/NCF catalyst obtained from ICP-OES.

Element	Ni	Co	Se
Atomic%			
NiSe <sub>2</sub> -CoSe <sub>2</sub> /NCF	8.04	43.25	48.71

**Table S3.** The TOF, and Mass Activity (MA) for Pt/C/NCF, NiCo LDH/NCF and NiSe<sub>2</sub>-CoSe<sub>2</sub>/NCF corresponding to HER.

Sample	TOF (s <sup>-1</sup> @100mV)	MA (mA g <sup>-1</sup> @100mV)
Pt/C/NCF	$2.00 \times 10^{-4}$	$3.29 \times 10^3$
NiCo LDH/NCF	$5.88 \times 10^{-4}$	$9.61 \times 10^2$
NiSe <sub>2</sub> -CoSe <sub>2</sub> /NCF	$2.13 \times 10^{-3}$	$1.92 \times 10^3$

**Table S4.** TOF for Pt/C/NCF, NiCo LDH/NCF and NiSe<sub>2</sub>-CoSe<sub>2</sub>/NCF at an overpotential of 40, 60, 80, 100 and 200 mV corresponding to HER.

<b>TOF s<sup>-1</sup></b>	<b>Pt/C/NCF</b>	<b>NiCo LDH/NCF</b>	<b>NiSe<sub>2</sub>-CoSe<sub>2</sub>/NCF</b>
<b>40 mV</b>	$2.35 \times 10^{-5}$	$7.40 \times 10^{-5}$	$7.61 \times 10^{-4}$
<b>60 mV</b>	$5.68 \times 10^{-5}$	$1.79 \times 10^{-4}$	$1.18 \times 10^{-3}$
<b>80 mV</b>	$1.19 \times 10^{-4}$	$3.49 \times 10^{-4}$	$1.64 \times 10^{-3}$
<b>100 mV</b>	$2.00 \times 10^{-4}$	$5.88 \times 10^{-4}$	$2.13 \times 10^{-3}$
<b>200 mV</b>	$6.54 \times 10^{-4}$	$6.76 \times 10^{-3}$	$9.00 \times 10^{-3}$

**Table S5.** Comparison of electrocatalytic HER activity of various non-precious catalysts in 1.0 M KOH electrolyte.

Catalysts	$\eta$ (mV)	Stability (h)		References
	@ $J$ (mA cm <sup>-2</sup> )	Tafel slope	@ $J$ (mA cm <sup>-2</sup> )	
<b>NiSe<sub>2</sub>-CoSe<sub>2</sub>/NCF</b>	24@10			
	106@50			
	156@100	24 mV dec <sup>-1</sup>	100@10	This Work
	202@200		100@100	
	231@300			
<b>NiFe LDH@NiCoP/NF</b>	257@400			
	120@10	89 mV dec <sup>-1</sup>	100@10	[S1]
	320@100			
<b>Se-(NiCo)S/OH</b>	103@10	88 mV dec <sup>-1</sup>	80@10	[S2]
	204@100			
	92@10			
<b>Fe<sub>0.09</sub>Co<sub>0.13</sub>-NiSe<sub>2</sub>/CFC</b>	215@100	89 mV dec <sup>-1</sup>	50@10	[S3]
	251@200			
	169@10			
<b>(Ni,Co)<sub>0.85</sub>Se NSAs</b>	284@100	116 mV dec <sup>-1</sup>	12@25	[S4]
	317@200			
	62@10			
<b>NiFeSe@NiSe O@CC</b>	231@100	49 mV dec <sup>-1</sup>	50@10	[S5]
	342@200			
	70@10			
<b>Co-B/Ni</b>	345@200	68 mV dec <sup>-1</sup>	20@50	[S6]
	408@400			
	107@10			
<b>Ni-Co-P HNBs</b>	209@200	46 mV dec <sup>-1</sup>	20@100	[S7]
	163@10			
<b>Fe<sub>7.4%</sub>-NiSe</b>	283@300	72 mV dec <sup>-1</sup>	22@20	[S8]
	30@10			
	170@200	35 mV dec <sup>-1</sup>	24@10	[S9]
<b>W- NiCoP/NF</b>	211@400			
	37@10			
	123@50	54 mV dec <sup>-1</sup>	22@10	[S10]
<b>NiCoP@NC NA/NF</b>	205@100			

<b>CoP-Co<sub>2</sub>P@PC/PG NHs</b>	39@10 68@50	59 mV dec <sup>-1</sup>	30@10	[S11]
<b>WS<sub>2(1-x)</sub>Se<sub>2x</sub>/NiSe<sub>2</sub></b>	88@10 129@50 146@100	47 mV dec <sup>-1</sup>	10@120	[S12]
<b><i>o</i>-CoSe<sub>2</sub> P</b>	104@10 177@100 193@200 205@300	69 mV dec <sup>-1</sup>	20@100	[S13]
<b>N-NiCoP/NF</b>	78@10 180@50 211@100	83 mV dec <sup>-1</sup>	100@10	[S14]
<b>NiCoP/NF</b>	32@10	37 mV dec <sup>-1</sup>	24@10	[S15]
<b>NiCo<sub>2</sub>O<sub>4</sub></b>	110@10 245@100 180@10	50 mV dec <sup>-1</sup>	32@10	[S16]
<b>Co<sub>1</sub>Mn<sub>1</sub>CH</b>	281@50 328@100	N/A	10@10	[S17]

**Table S6.** The TOF, and Mass Activity (MA) for RuO<sub>2</sub>/NCF, NiCo LDH/NCF and NiSe<sub>2</sub>-CoSe<sub>2</sub>/NCF corresponding to OER.

Sample	TOF (s <sup>-1</sup> @300mV)	MA (mA g <sup>-1</sup> @300mV)
<b>RuO<sub>2</sub>/NCF</b>	$9.66 \times 10^{-2}$	$8.14 \times 10^2$
<b>NiCo LDH/NCF</b>	$1.15 \times 10^{-1}$	$4.61 \times 10^2$
<b>NiSe<sub>2</sub>-CoSe<sub>2</sub>/NCF</b>	$4.55 \times 10^{-1}$	$5.28 \times 10^2$

**Table S7.** TOF for RuO<sub>2</sub>/NCF, NiCo LDH/NCF and NiSe<sub>2</sub>-CoSe<sub>2</sub>/NCF at an overpotential of 250, 275, 300, and 325 mV corresponding to OER.

<b>TOF s<sup>-1</sup></b>	<b>RuO<sub>2</sub>/NCF</b>	<b>NiCo LDH/NCF</b>	<b>NiSe<sub>2</sub>-CoSe<sub>2</sub>/NCF</b>
<b>250 mV</b>	$4.45 \times 10^{-2}$	$1.11 \times 10^{-1}$	$1.20 \times 10^{-1}$
<b>275 mV</b>	$6.93 \times 10^{-2}$	$1.05 \times 10^{-1}$	$1.77 \times 10^{-1}$
<b>300 mV</b>	$9.66 \times 10^{-2}$	$1.15 \times 10^{-1}$	$4.55 \times 10^{-1}$
<b>325 mV</b>	$1.32 \times 10^{-1}$	$1.77 \times 10^{-1}$	1.60

**Table S8.** Comparison of electrocatalytic OER activity of various non-precious catalysts in 1.0 M KOH electrolyte.

Catalysts	$\eta$ (mV)	Stability (h)		References
	@ $J$ (mA cm <sup>-2</sup> )	Tafel slope	@ $J$ (mA cm <sup>-2</sup> )	
<b>NiSe<sub>2</sub>-CoSe<sub>2</sub>/NCF</b>	250@10			
	305@50			
	318@100		100@10	
	332@200	48 mV dec <sup>-1</sup>	100@100	This Work
	337@300			
	346@400			
<b>NiFe LDH@NiCoP/NF</b>	220@10			
	345@100			
	459@200	49 mV dec <sup>-1</sup>	100@10	[S1]
	560@300			
<b>Se-(NiCo)S/OH</b>	155@10			
	242@100	34 mV dec <sup>-1</sup>	73@20	[S2]
	296@200			
	287@20			
<b>(Ni,Co)<sub>0.85</sub>Se NSAs</b>	398@200	87 mV dec <sup>-1</sup>	12@72	[S4]
	470@400			
<b>Co-B/Ni</b>	140@10			
	412@100	98 mV dec <sup>-1</sup>	20@100	[S6]
	524@200			
<b>Fe<sub>7.4%</sub>-NiSe</b>	231@50			
	257@300	43 mV dec <sup>-1</sup>	22@30	[S8]
<b>N-NiCoP/NF</b>	225@10			
	361@100	67 mV dec <sup>-1</sup>	100@10	[S14]
<b>NiCoP/NF</b>	280@10			
	300@16	87 mV dec <sup>-1</sup>	24@10	[S15]
<b>NiCo<sub>2</sub>O<sub>4</sub></b>	290@10			
	330@50	53 mV dec <sup>-1</sup>	32@10	[S16]
	360@100			
<b>Co<sub>1</sub>Mn<sub>1</sub>CH</b>	322@50			
	349@100	N/A	18@50	[S17]
<b>NiCo-nitrides/NiCo<sub>2</sub>O<sub>4</sub>/GF</b>	183@10			
	435@100	56 mV dec <sup>-1</sup>	40@10	[S18]
	538@200			

	280@50			
<b>Ni<sub>5</sub>Co<sub>3</sub>Mo-OH</b>	290@100 301@200 320@300	57 mV dec <sup>-1</sup>	100@100	[S19]
<b>Ni<sub>0.33</sub>Co<sub>0.67</sub>MoS<sub>4</sub>/CFC</b>	283@10 344@100	69 mV dec <sup>-1</sup>	10@10	[S20]
	287@10			
<b>FeOOH(Se)/IF</b>	363@100 405@200 449@400	54 mV dec <sup>-1</sup>	15@10	[S21]
<b>LSC&amp;MoSe<sub>2</sub></b>	370@10 487@100	77 mV dec <sup>-1</sup>	1000@100	[S22]
	255@10			
<b>CoSe<sub>1.26</sub>P<sub>1.42</sub></b>	333@50 372@100	87 mV dec <sup>-1</sup>	15@10	[S23]
<b>5% Fe-NiSe<sub>2</sub></b>	231@10 368@100 241@200	83 mV dec <sup>-1</sup>	20@15	[S24]
	290@10			
<b>two-tiered NiSe</b>	354@50 421@100	77 mV dec <sup>-1</sup>	30@10	[S25]

**Table S9.** Comparison of overall water splitting performance of this work with recently reported electrocatalysts in 1 M KOH solution at the current density of 50, 100 and 200 mA cm<sup>-2</sup>.

Catalysts	Cell voltages (V)		References
	@	<i>J</i> (mA cm <sup>-2</sup> )	
<b>NiSe<sub>2</sub>-CoSe<sub>2</sub>/NCF</b>	1.63@50		
	1.69@100		This work
	1.79@200		
<b>NiFe LDH@NiCoP/NF</b>	1.76@50		
	1.91@100		[S1]
<b>Se-(NiCo)S/OH</b>	1.86@50		
	2.04@100		[S2]
<b>(Ni,Co)<sub>0.85</sub>Se NSAs</b>	1.88@50		
	1.98@80		[S4]
<b>NiFeSe@NiSe O@CC</b>	1.72@50		
	1.86@100		[S5]
<b>Fe<sub>7.4%</sub>-NiSe</b>	1.68@50		
	1.73@100		[S8]
<b>N-NiCoP/NF</b>	1.56@10		
	1.82@100		[S14]
<b>NiCoP/NF</b>	1.65@50		
	1.81@100		[S15]
<b>NiCo<sub>2</sub>O<sub>4</sub></b>	1.65@10		[S16]
<b>Co<sub>1</sub>Mn<sub>1</sub>CH</b>	1.83@50		
	1.98@100		[S17]
<b>Co-Ni-Se/C/NF</b>	1.76@50		
	1.87@100		[S26]
<b>Co-B@CoO</b>	1.67@50		[S27]
<b>FeCoNi-LTH/NiCo<sub>2</sub>O<sub>4</sub>/CC</b>	1.65@50		[S28]
<b>Ru-HPC  P-RuO<sub>2</sub></b>	1.64@50		
	1.69@100		[S29]
<b>NiCo<sub>2</sub>S<sub>4</sub>-2</b>	1.80@50		
	1.96@100		[S30]

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