### **Electronic Supporting Information**

# Pencil Graphite Rods Decorated with Nickel and Nickel-Iron as Low-Cost Oxygen Evolution Reaction Electrodes

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Electrode	C <sub>dl</sub> @-0.05V (mF∙cm <sup>-2</sup> )	ECSA	R <sub>s</sub> (Ω)	η (η – IR <sub>s</sub> ) @10 mA·cm <sup>-2</sup> (mV)	η (η – IR <sub>s</sub> ) @100 mA·cm <sup>-2</sup> (mV)
ED@Ni/PGR	134	768	1.8	290 (270)	380 (325)
FA@Ni/PGR	191	1093	2.5	252 (240)	440 (300)
FA@NiFe/PGR	186	1071	2.5	250 (240)	450 (290)
FA@PGR	182	1042	1.9	400 (370)	620 (500)
Glassy Carbon	0.174	1	-	-	-

**Table 1.** ECSA and overpotential referred to RHE data for the different samples studied. In brackets the value of the interfacial overpotential, i.e. after subtracting the potential drop at series resistance

## SEM and EDX analysis





Element	% <b>atomic</b> 73.42			
СК				
ОК	17.47			
Na K	0.33			
Al K	0.7			
Si K	1.06			
Fe K	0.26			
Ni K	6.75			

Figure S1. a) SEM and b) EDX analysis of ED@Ni/PGR



Figure S2. a) SEM and b) EDX analysis of FA@Ni/PGR



Figure S3. a) SEM and b) EDX analysis of FA@NiFe/PGR

a)					b)			
	Sample	Ni <sup>o</sup>	Ni <sup>2+</sup>	Ni <sup>3+</sup>		Sample	Fe <sup>2+</sup>	Fe <sup>3+</sup>
	ED@Ni/PGR	14.6	66.1	19.2		FA@PGR	88.7	11.3
	FA@Ni/PGR	-	65.9	34.1		FA@NiFe/PGR	70.3	29.7
	FA@NiFe/PGR	-	65.7	34.3				



**Figure S4.** XPS spectra of (a)Ni2p and (b)O1s in FA@NiFe/PGR, ED@Ni/PGR and FA/PGR electrodes. The dotted line is the measurement data, and the solid line is the smoothed data and fitting data.

#### Cyclic voltammetry measurements at different pH



Figure S5. FA@NiFe/PGR measured at 1M and 8M KOH

#### Impedance parameters at the applied overpotential



**Figure S6.** Results from the IS measurements data as a function of the overpotential for FA@PGR (Black), ED@Ni/PGR (Green), and FA@NiFe/PGR (Blue). (a) Electrode capacitance, (b) transport resistance, (c) Charge transfer resistance, and (d) *J-V* curve obtained during IS measurements



#### Comparison of impedance parameters with Fe decorated PGR

Figure S7. IS measurements as a function of the interfacial overpotential for FA@PGR (Black), ED@Ni/PGR (Green), and FA@Fe/PGR (Orange). (a) Electrode capacitance, (b) transport resistance, (c) Charge transfer resistance, and (d) *J-V* curve obtained during IS measurements