

## Supporting Information

### Electronic modulation of cobalt-molybdenum oxide via Te doping embedded in carbon matrix for superior overall water splitting

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#### TOF calculation

Turnover frequency (TOF) was calculated via the following formula according to previous reports.

$$\text{TOF per site} = \frac{\# \text{ Total Oxygen Turn Over/cm}^2 \text{ geometric area}}{\# \text{ Surface Sites/cm}^2 \text{ geometric area}}$$

The total number of oxygens turnovers was calculated from the current density using the following equation:

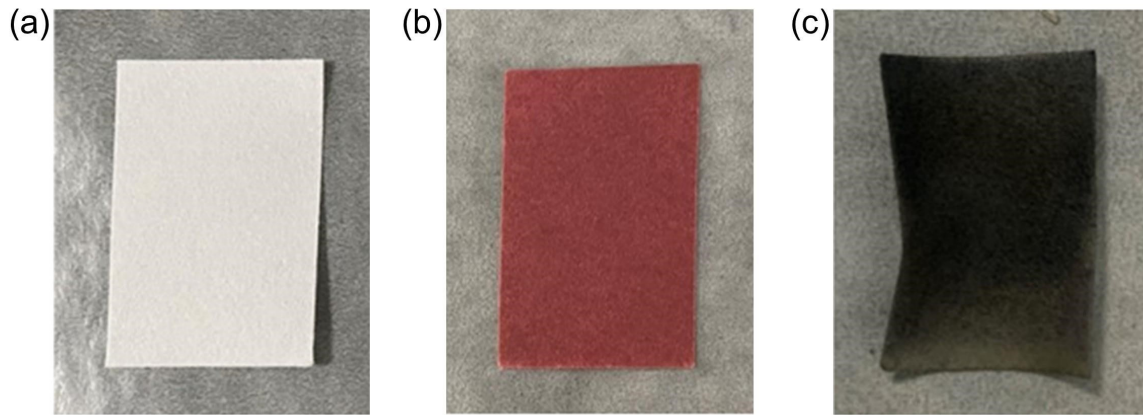
$$\#O_2 = \left( \frac{j}{\text{cm}^2} \right) \left( \frac{1 \text{ C s}^{-1}}{1000 \text{ mA}} \right) \left( \frac{1 \text{ mol s}^{-1}}{1000 \text{ mA}} \right) \left( \frac{1 \text{ mol O}_2}{4 \text{ mol e}^-} \right) \left( \frac{6.022 \times 10^{23} \text{ O}_2 \text{ molecules}}{1 \text{ mol O}_2} \right) = J \times 1.56 \times 10^{15} \frac{\text{O}_2/\text{s}}{\text{cm}^2} \text{ per } \frac{\text{mA}}{\text{cm}^2}$$

The Co content of Te-CoMoO<sub>3</sub>@C is determined by the ICP. The mass loading on the electrode is ~0.30 mg cm<sup>-2</sup>. Thus, n is calculated as:

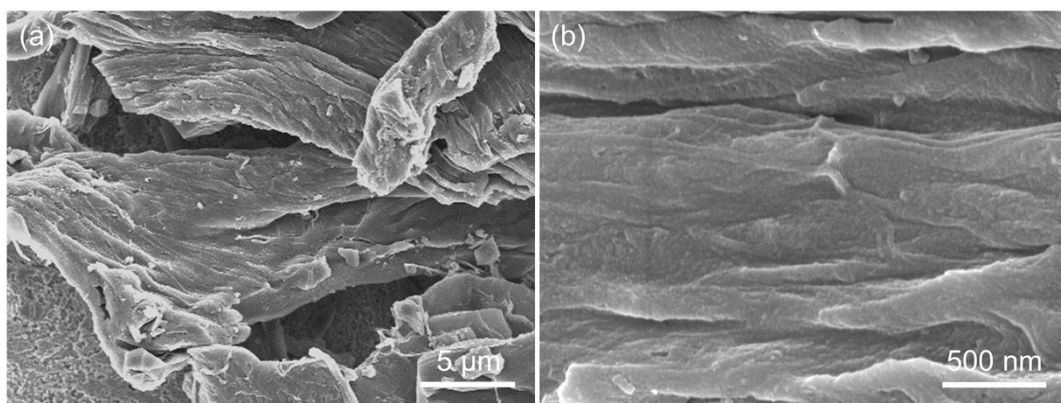
$$n(\text{Te-CoMoO}_3@\text{C}) = \frac{4.67\% \times 0.30 \frac{\text{mg}}{\text{cm}^2}}{58.93 \frac{\text{g}}{\text{mol}}} = 2.38 \times 10^{-7} \text{ mol/cm}^2$$

$$N_{\text{active}}^{\text{Te-CoMoO}_3@\text{C}} = 6.022 \times 10^{23} \text{ mol}^{-1} \times 2.38 \times 10^{-7} \text{ mol/cm}^2 = 1.433 \times 10^{17} \text{ atoms/cm}^2$$

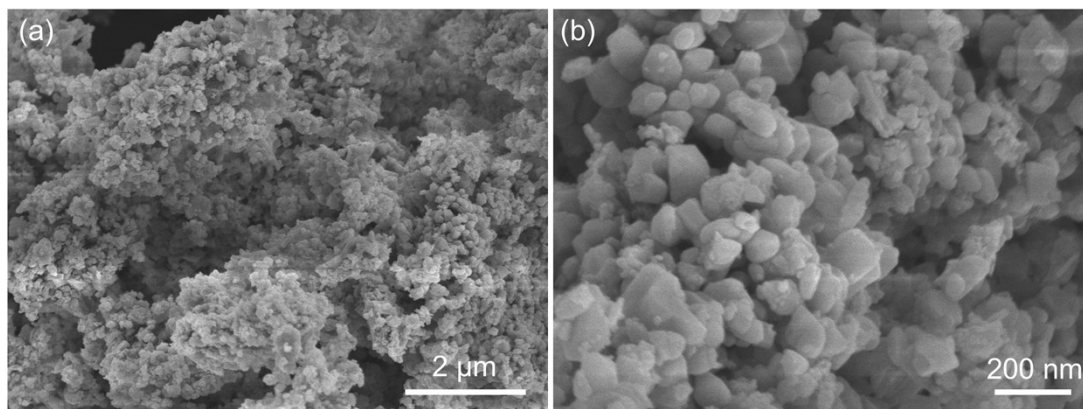
$$\text{TOF} = \frac{|J| \times 1.56 \times 10^{15} \frac{\text{O}_2/\text{s}}{\text{cm}^2} \text{per} \frac{\text{mA}}{\text{cm}^2}}{N_{\text{active}}^{\text{Te-CoMoO}_3@C}}$$



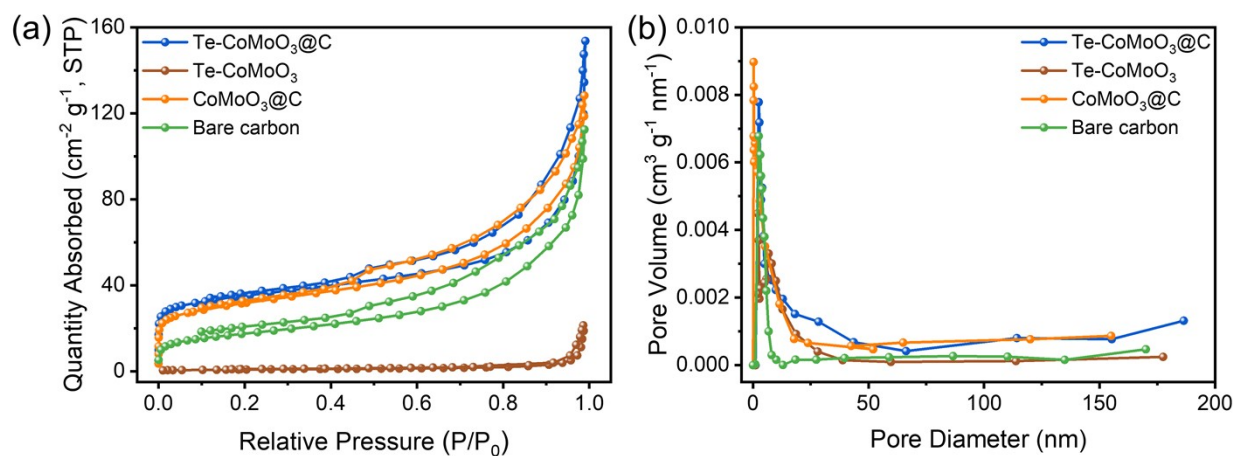
**Fig. S1.** Optical photographs of (a) filter paper, (b) Co/Mo salts adsorbed on the filter paper, and (c) Te-CoMoO<sub>3</sub>@C.



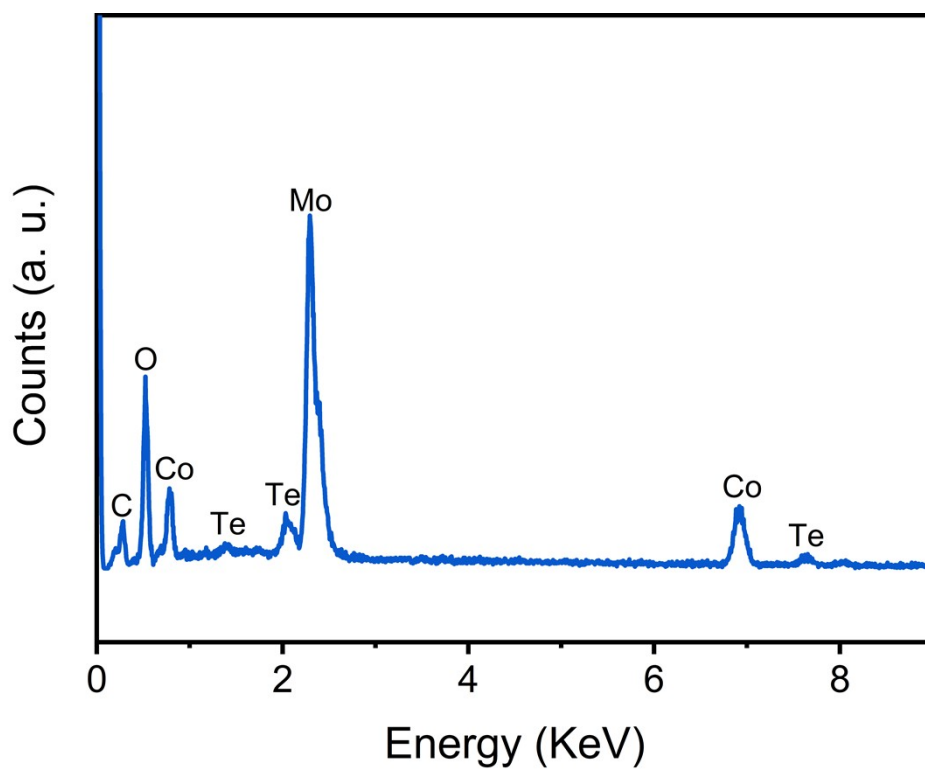
**Fig. S2.** (a) Low-magnified and (b) high-magnified SEM images of calcined filter paper.



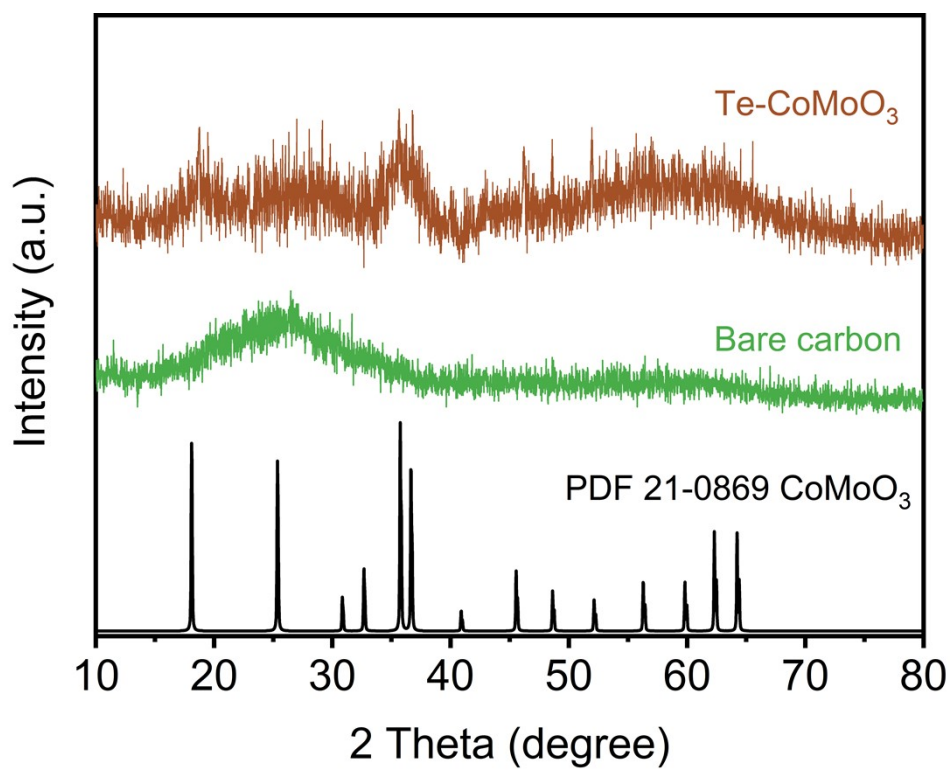
**Fig. S3.** (a) Low-magnified and (b) high-magnified SEM images of CoMoO<sub>3</sub>@C.



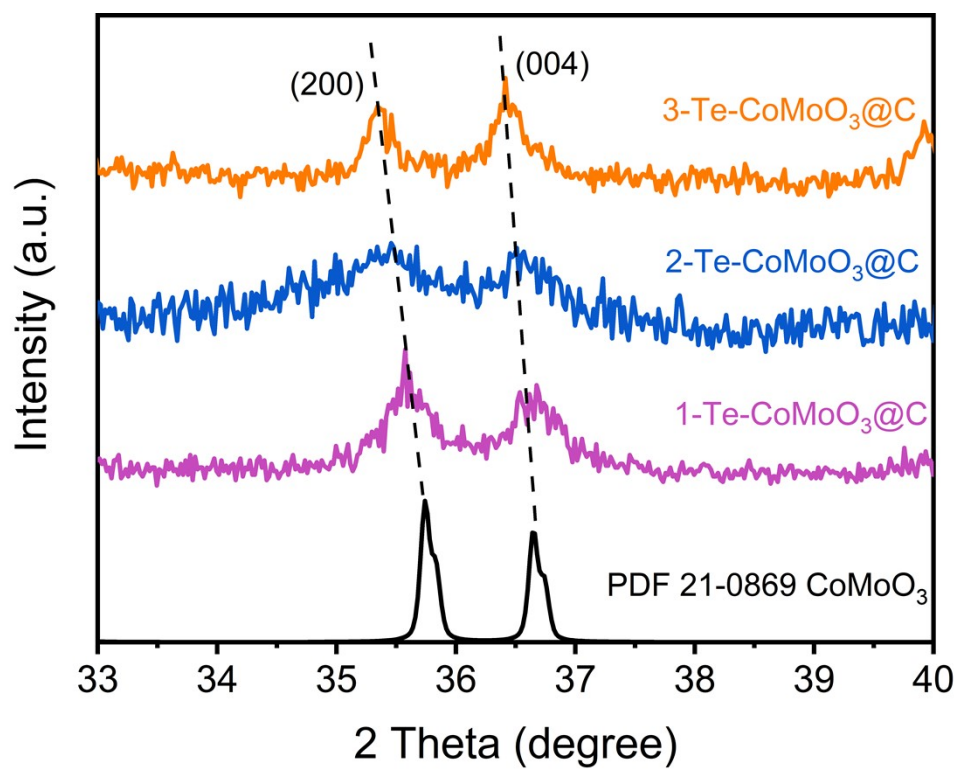
**Fig. S4.** (a) N<sub>2</sub> adsorption/desorption isotherm and (b) the corresponding pore size distribution of Te-CoMoO<sub>3</sub>@C, Te-CoMoO<sub>3</sub>, CoMoO<sub>3</sub>@C, and bare carbon.



**Fig. S5.** EDX pattern of Te-CoMoO<sub>3</sub>@C.

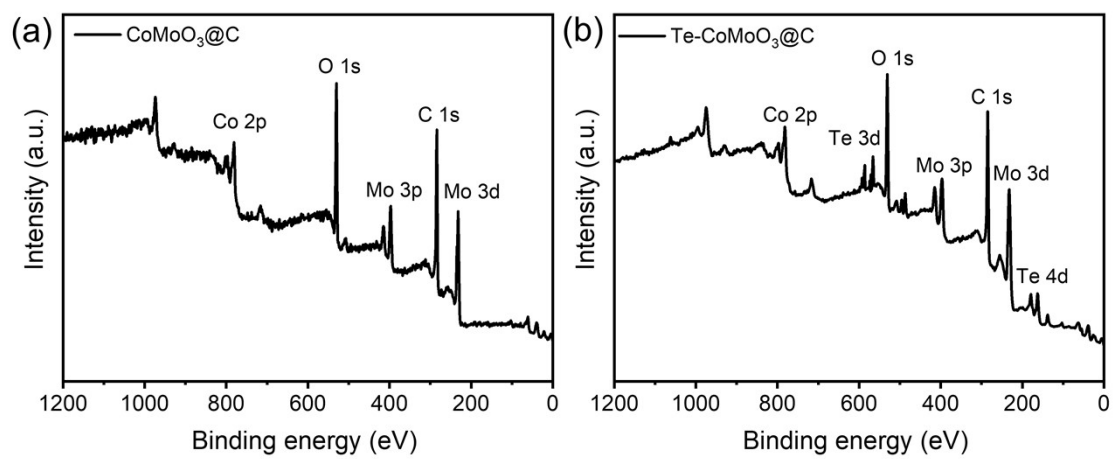


**Fig. S6.** XRD pattern of CoMoO<sub>3</sub>@C and bare carbon.

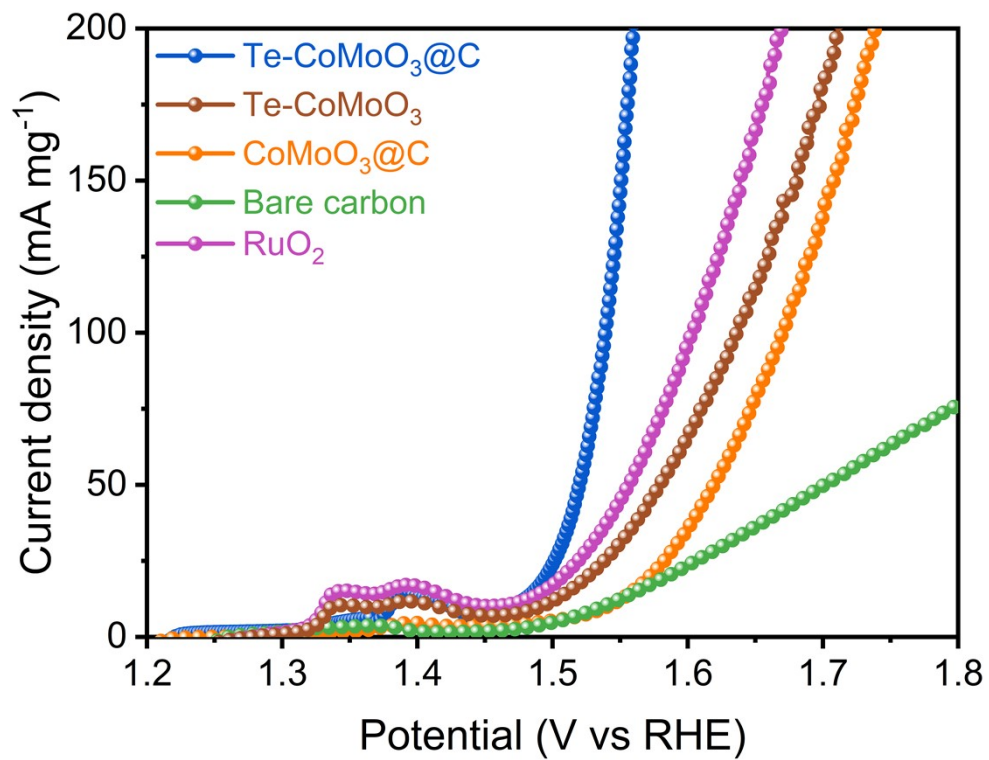


**Fig. S7.** XRD patterns of the Te-CoMoO<sub>3</sub>@C with various doping amounts of Te.

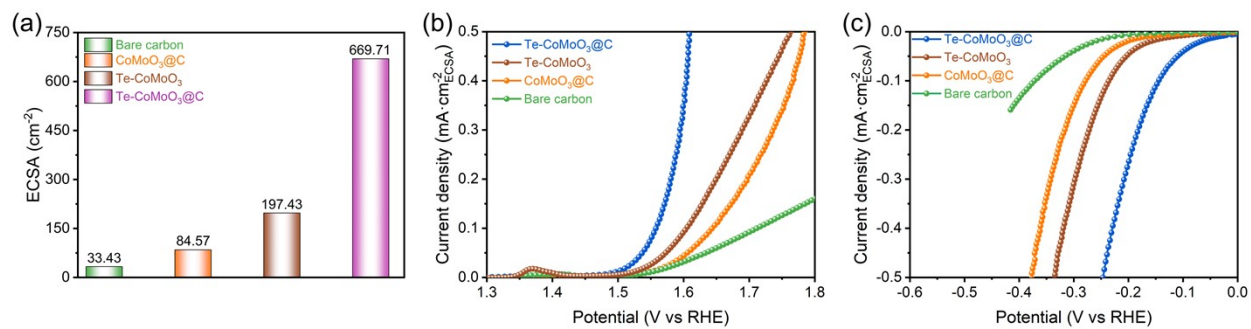




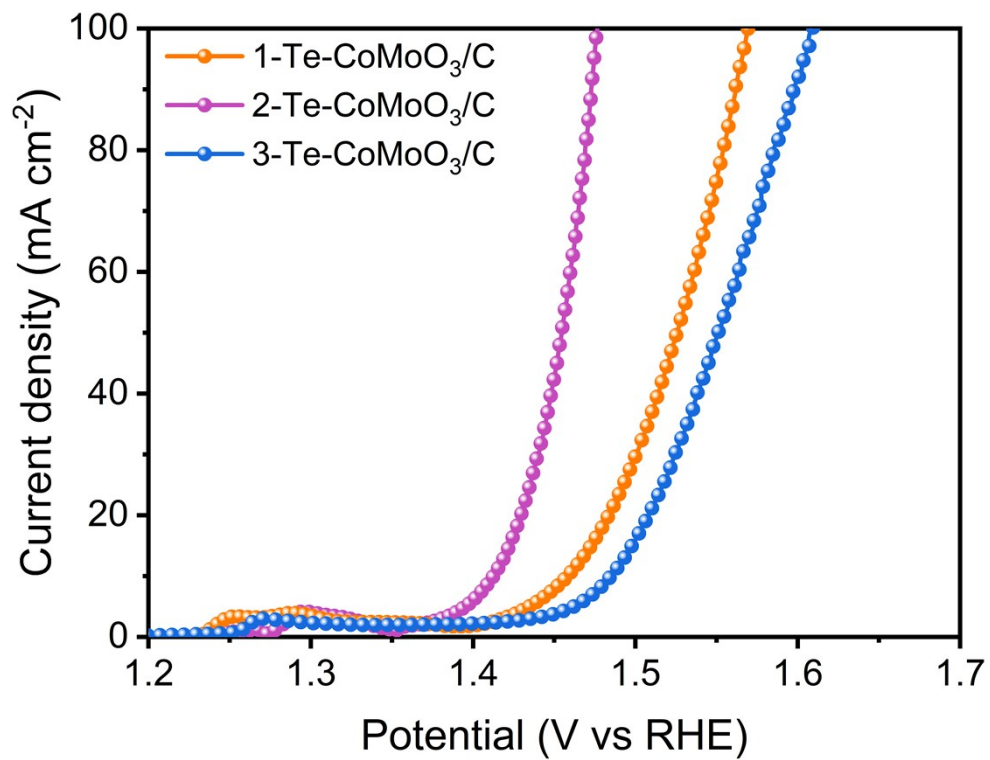
**Fig. S8.** XPS full spectra of (a) CoMoO<sub>3</sub>@C and (b) Te-CoMoO<sub>3</sub>@C.



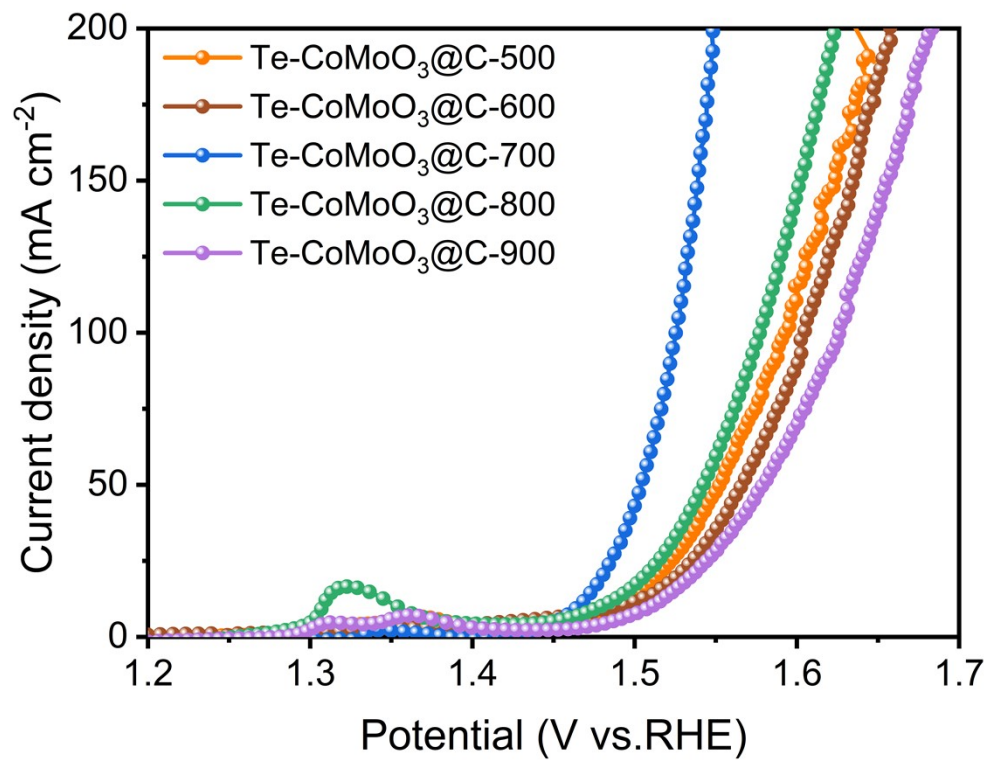
**Fig. S9.** OER LSV polarization curves normalized to catalyst loading of RuO<sub>2</sub>, bare carbon, CoMoO<sub>3</sub>@C, Te-CoMoO<sub>3</sub> and Te-CoMoO<sub>3</sub>@C.



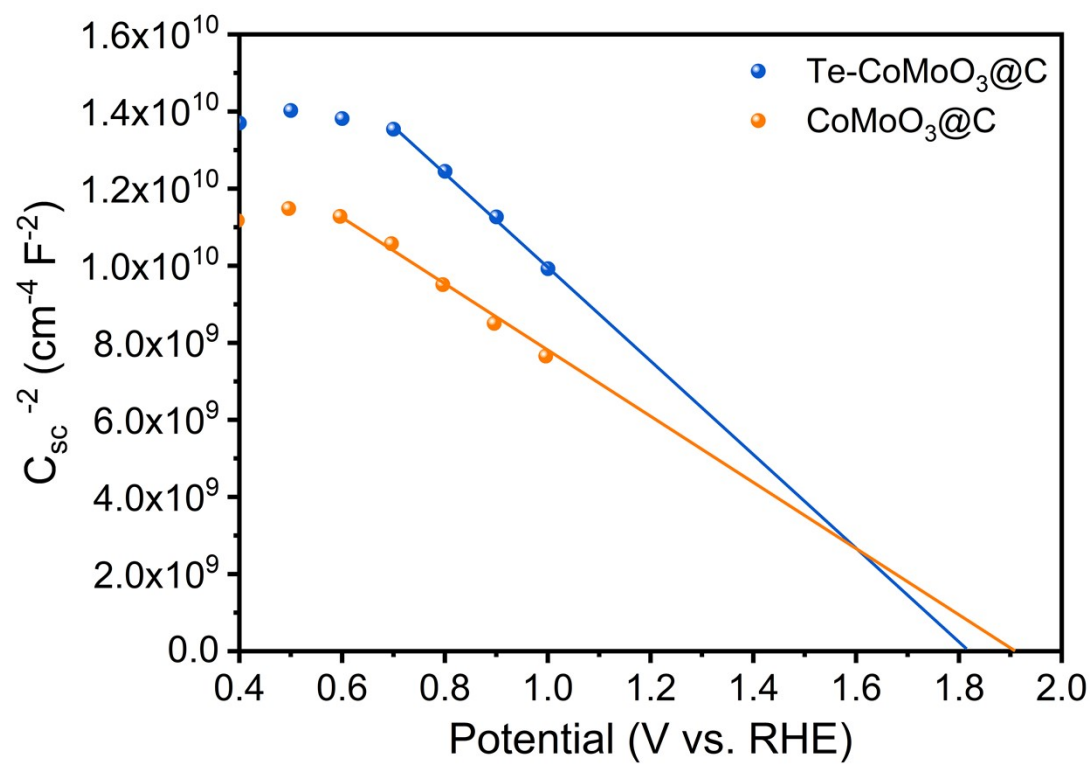
**Fig. S10.** (a) The ECSA of bare carbon, CoMoO<sub>3</sub>@C, Te-CoMoO<sub>3</sub> and Te-CoMoO<sub>3</sub>@C. (b) HER and (c) OER polarization curve normalized by the ECSA for bare carbon, CoMoO<sub>3</sub>@C, Te-CoMoO<sub>3</sub> and Te-CoMoO<sub>3</sub>@C.



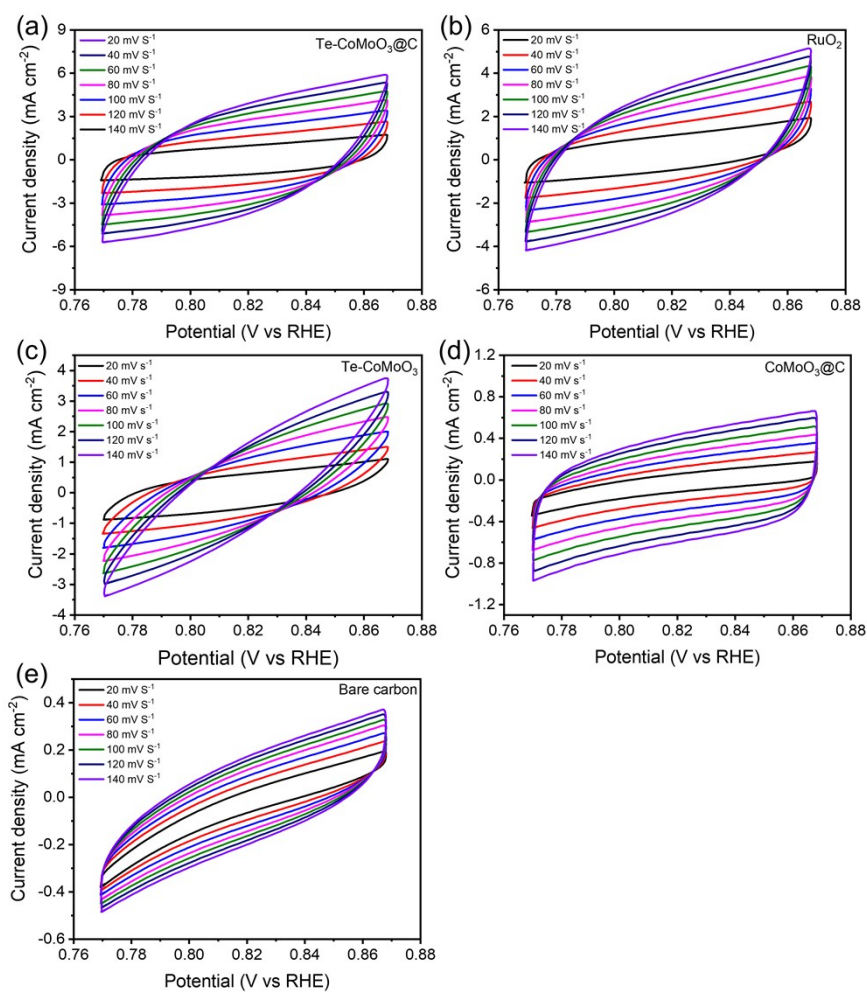
**Fig. S11.** OER performances of 1-Te-CoMoO<sub>3</sub>@C, 2-Te-CoMoO<sub>3</sub>@C, and 3-Te-CoMoO<sub>3</sub>@C.



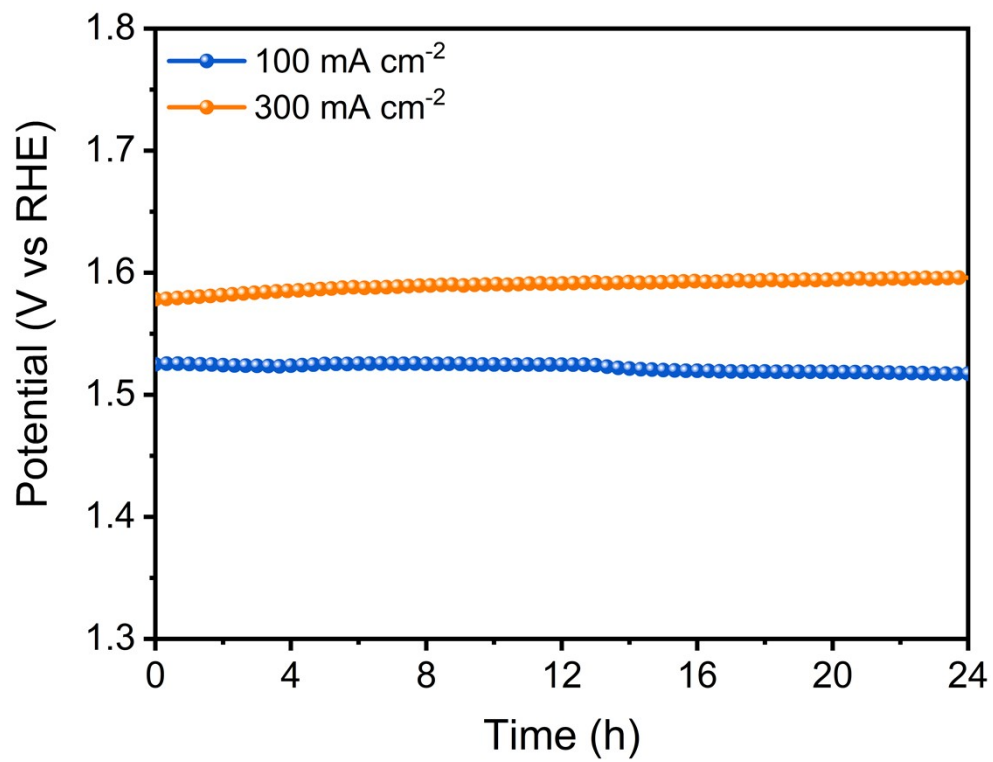
**Fig. S12.** OER performances of Te-CoMoO<sub>3</sub>@C catalysts obtained under different temperatures.



**Fig. S13.** Mott-Schottky curves of CoMoO<sub>3</sub>@C and Te-CoMoO<sub>3</sub>@C.

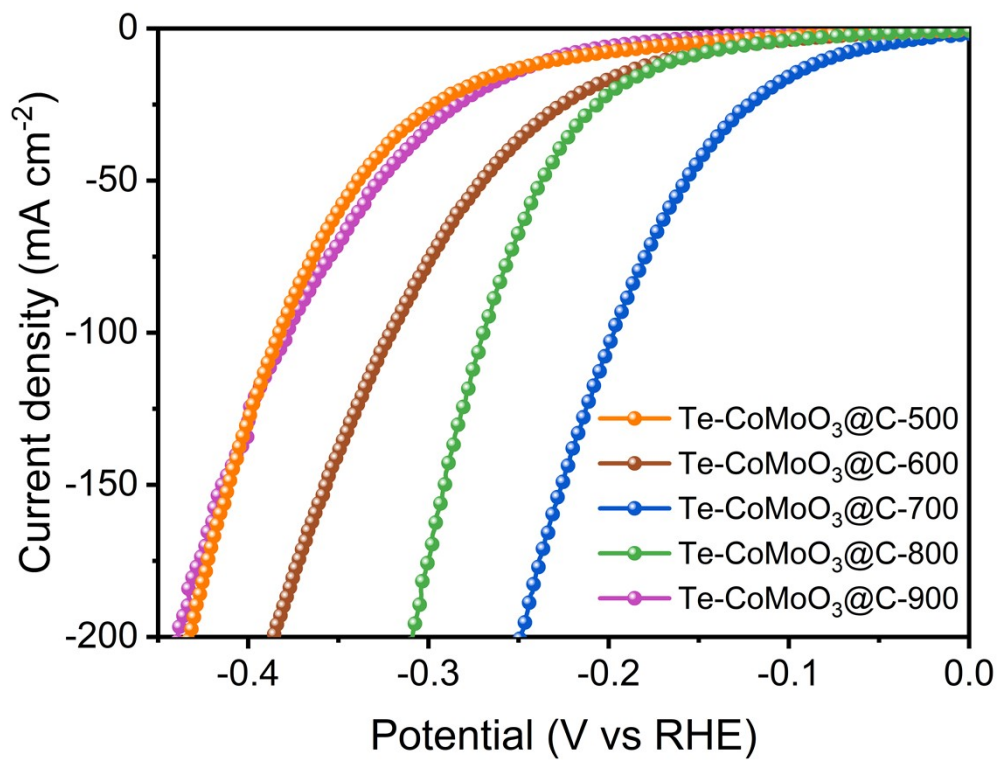


**Fig. S14.** Cyclic voltammograms of different samples from 20 to 140 mV s<sup>-1</sup> between 0.77 and 0.87 V.

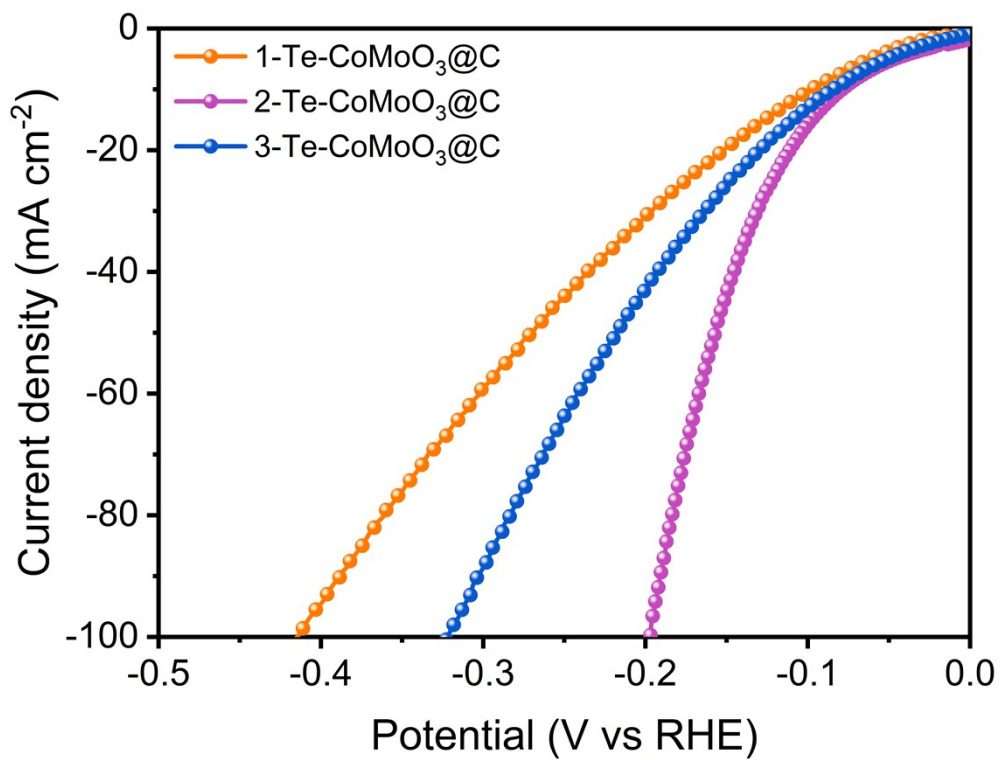


**Fig. S15.** Chronopotentiometry curves of Te-CoMoO<sub>3</sub>@C during OER process.

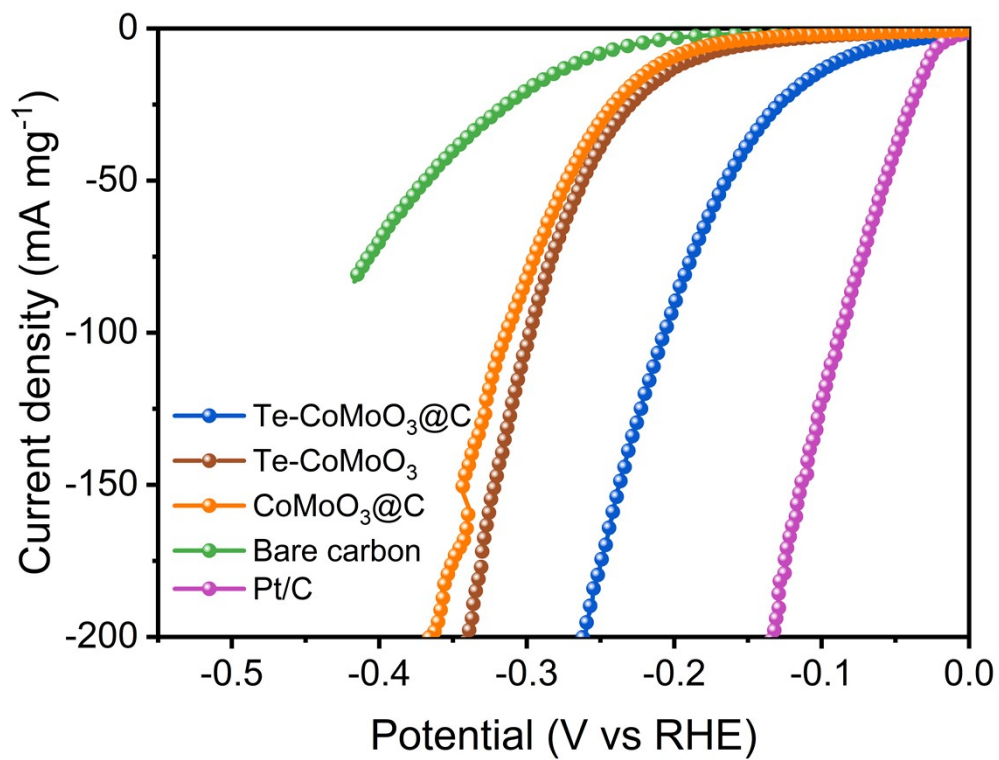




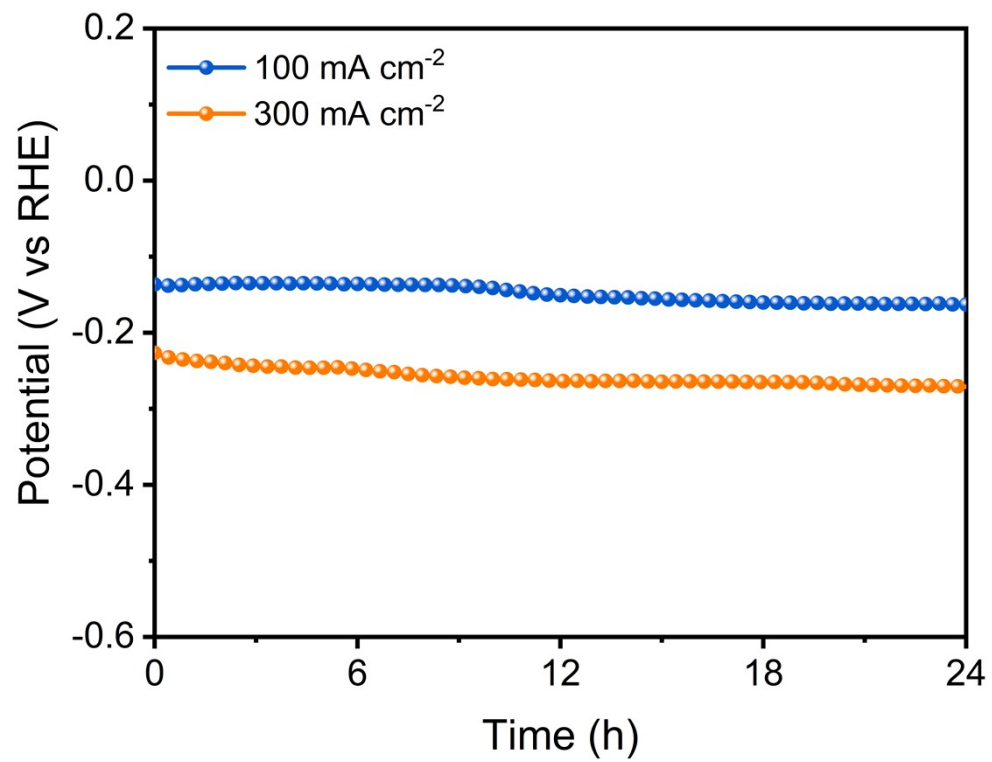
**Fig. S16.** HER performances of Te-CoMoO<sub>3</sub>@C catalysts obtained under different temperatures.



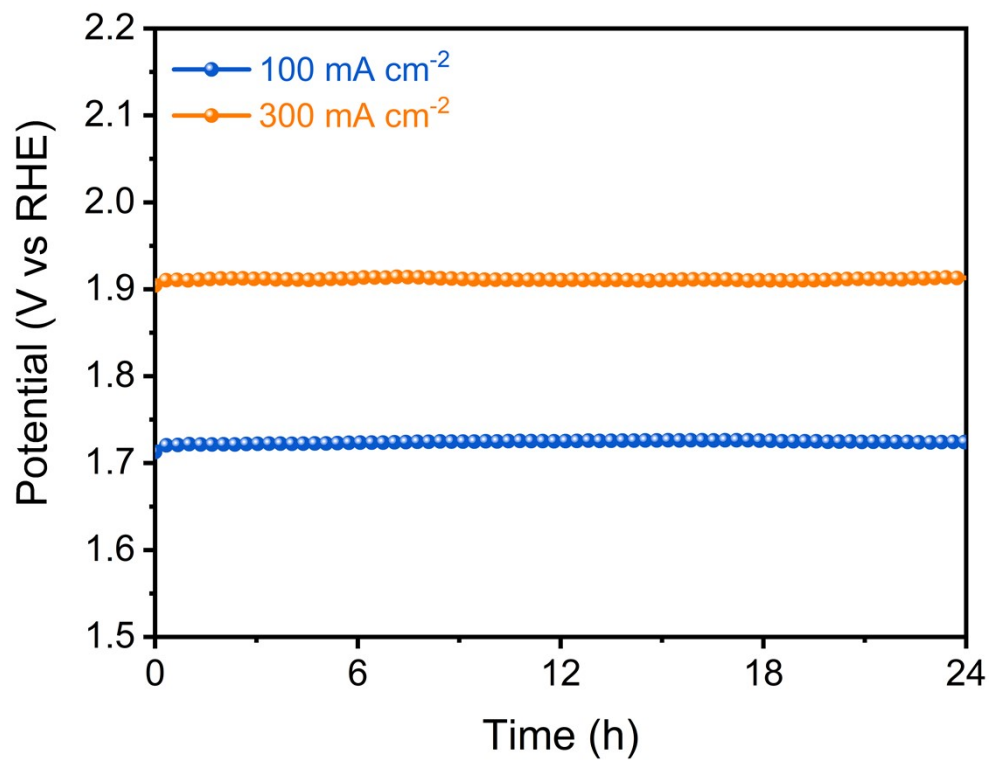
**Fig. S17.** HER performances of 1-Te-CoMoO<sub>3</sub>@C, 2-Te-CoMoO<sub>3</sub>@C, and 3-Te-CoMoO<sub>3</sub>@C.



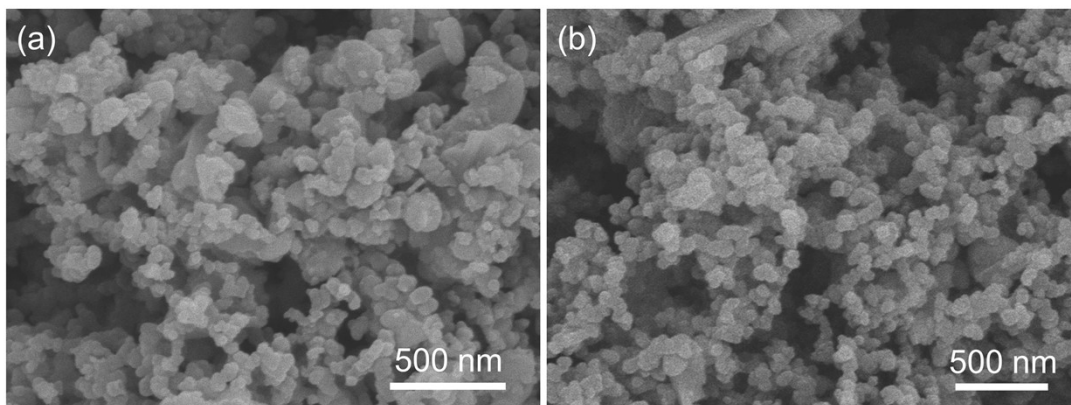
**Fig. S18.** HER LSV polarization curves normalized to catalyst loading of Pt/C, bare carbon, CoMoO<sub>3</sub>@C, Te-CoMoO<sub>3</sub> and Te-CoMoO<sub>3</sub>@C.



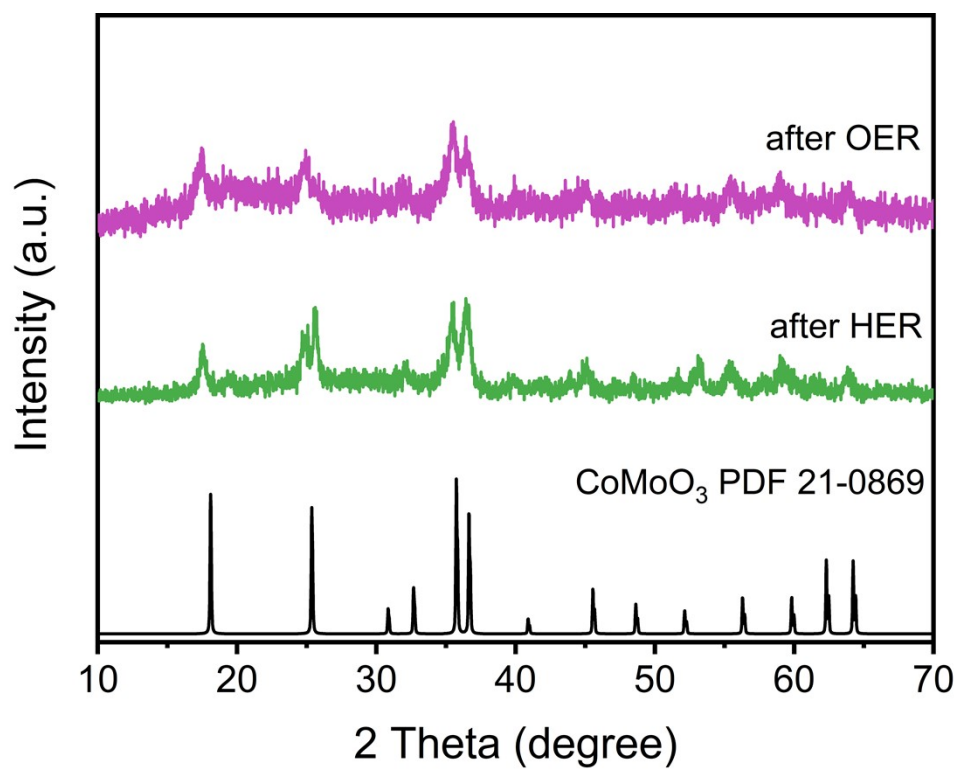
**Fig. S19.** Chronopotentiometry curves of Te-CoMoO<sub>3</sub>@C during HER process.



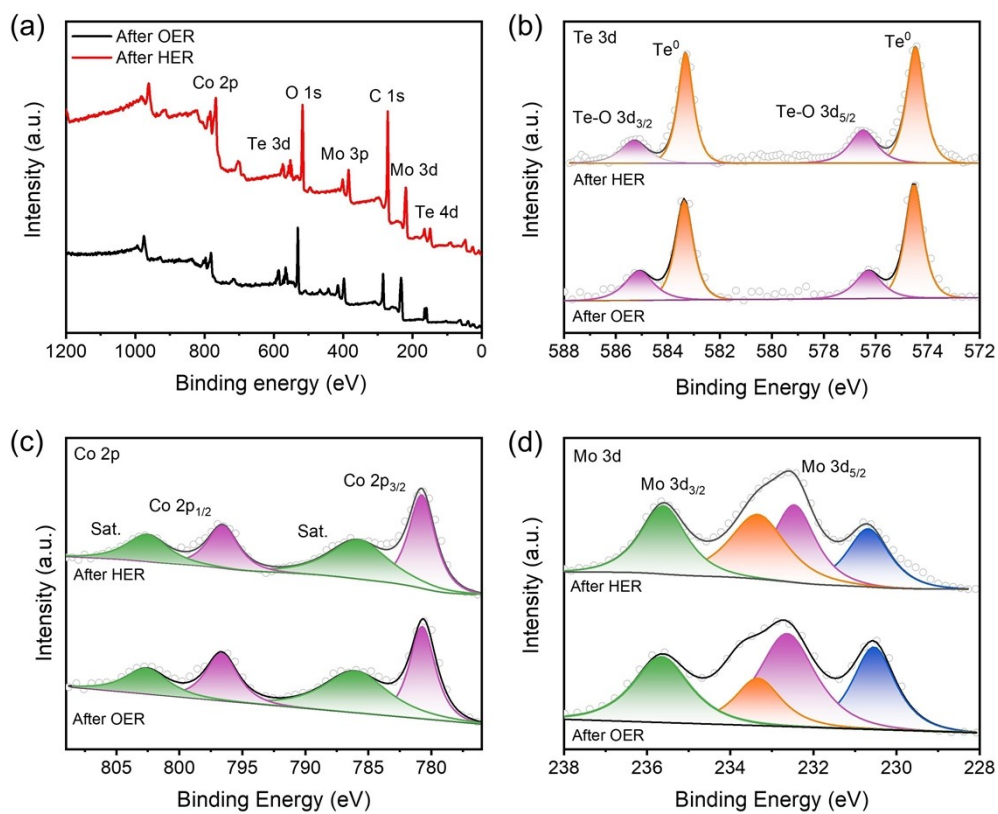
**Fig. S20.** Chronopotentiometry curves of Te-CoMoO<sub>3</sub>@C during overall water splitting process.



**Fig. S21.** SEM images of Te-CoMoO<sub>3</sub>@C after OER (a) and (b) HER cycling tests.

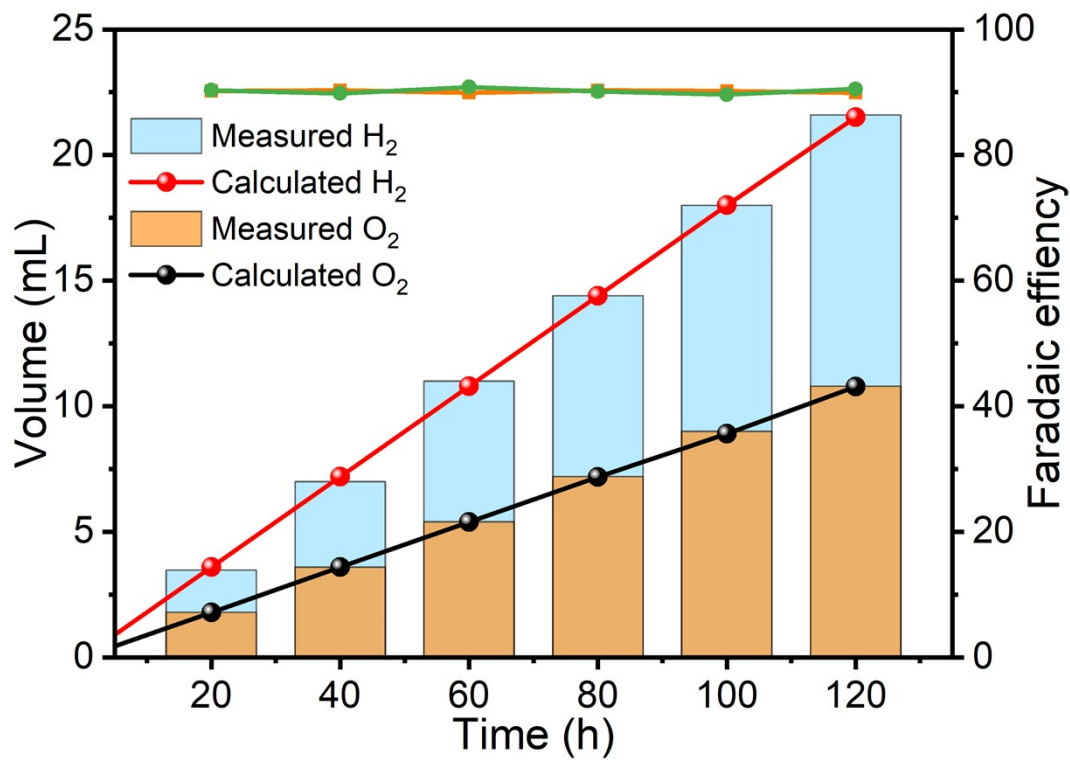


**Fig. S22.** XRD patterns of Te-CoMoO<sub>3</sub>@C after water splitting cycling tests.



**Fig. S23.** (a) XPS survey spectra and high-resolution XPS spectra of (b) Te 3d, (c) Co 2p, and (d) Mo 3d for Te-CoMoO<sub>3</sub>@C after water splitting cycling tests.





**Fig. S24.** Amount of hydrogen theoretically calculated and experimentally measured and the Faradaic efficiency.

**Table S1.** Inductive Coupled Plasma (ICP) results of prepared samples.

Samples	Te (wt.%)	Co (wt.%)	Mo (wt.%)
Te-CoMoO <sub>3</sub> @C	0.83	4.67	18.32

**Table S2.** The fitting parameters of the XPS spectra of O2p for Te-CoMoO<sub>3</sub>@C and CoMoO<sub>3</sub>@C.

Sample	Peak	Position	peak area
Te-CoMoO <sub>3</sub> @C	M-O	530.42	11705.17
	O <sub>v</sub>	531.13	6338.04
	H-O-H	532.84	5005.15
CoMoO <sub>3</sub> @C	M-O	530.51	51536.50
	O <sub>v</sub>	531.25	3896.50
	H-O-H	532.77	16536.50

**Table S3.** OER Fitting results of EIS for Te-CoMoO<sub>3</sub>/C, Te-CoMoO<sub>3</sub>, CoMoO<sub>3</sub>/C, bare carbon, and RuO<sub>2</sub>.

Catalysts	Rs (ohm)	Rct (ohm)	Error (%)
Te-CoMoO <sub>3</sub> @C	1.181	3.042	0.692
Te-CoMoO <sub>3</sub>	1.326	4.683	0.688
CoMoO <sub>3</sub> @C	1.558	6.919	0.795
Bare carbon	1.841	13.59	0.764
RuO <sub>2</sub>	1.294	3.545	0.748

**Table S4.** Comparison of overpotential (10 mA cm<sup>-2</sup>) and Tafel slopes for OER between Te-CoMoO<sub>3</sub>@C and various reported catalysts.

Catalysts	Overpotential (mV) 10 mA cm <sup>-2</sup>	Tafel slope (mV dec <sup>-1</sup> )	Reference
<b>Te-CoMoO<sub>3</sub>@C</b>	<b>218</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>This work</b>
Te/FeNiOOH-NC	220	52	ACS Appl. Mater. Interfaces. 2021, 13, 10972-10978.
GB-(Fe <sub>0.66</sub> Co <sub>0.34</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> B/RGO	221	39	Appl. Catal. B Environ. 2020, 305, 121034.
Ta-NiFe LDH	228	58.95	Chem. Eng. J. 2021, 403, 126297.
Co <sub>1.6</sub> Ni <sub>0.4</sub> P <sub>4</sub> O <sub>12</sub> -C	230	51.1	Adv. Funct. Mater. 2020, 30, 1910498.
Ni-MnO <sub>2</sub>	233	36	Adv. Energy Mater. 2020, 10, 2001059.
V-NiCoP	234	35	J. Mater. Chem. A. 2021, 9, 12203-12213.
Fe <sub>0.9</sub> Ni <sub>2.1</sub> S <sub>2</sub> @NF	235	64	Adv. Energy Mater. 2020, 10, 2001963.
Ni-Mo-P	235	108.4	Appl. Catal. B Environ. 2021, 298,

			120494.
Mo-Ni <sub>3</sub> S <sub>2</sub> /Ni <sub>x</sub> P <sub>y</sub>	236	60.6	Adv. Energy Mater. 2020, 10, 1903891.
S-NiFe-LDH-9-A	240	42	Appl. Catal. B Environ. 2021, 292, 120150.
o-CoTe <sub>2</sub>  P@HPC/CNTs	241	46	ACS Nano. 2020, 14, 6968-6979.
Fe, Ni-CoS <sub>2</sub>	242	35	ACS Catal. 2022, 12, 3743-3751.
30%Ce-NiFe-LDH	242	32	Energy Environ. Sci. 2020, 13, 2949-2956.
Ti-CoS <sub>x</sub> HSS	249	48.3	Small. 2022, 18, 2103106.
CoOOH-W <sub>D</sub> -Co <sub>V</sub>	251	46.1	Adv. Mater. 2022, 34, 2104667.
Fe <sub>x</sub> Ni <sub>3-x</sub> S <sub>2</sub> @NF	252	64	Adv. Energy Mater. 2020, 10, 2001963.
NiNCs-1T-Mn-VTe <sub>2</sub> NS	258	65.11	Appl. Catal. B Environ. 2022, 301, 120780.
0.5Fe-NiCo <sub>2</sub> O <sub>4</sub> @CC	258	63.5	Small. 2022, 18, 2106187.
Co, Nb-MoS <sub>2</sub> /TiO <sub>2</sub> HSSs	260	65	Nano Energy. 2021, 82, 105750.
Fe-Co <sub>3</sub> O <sub>4</sub> HHNPs	262	43	Adv. Mater. 2020, 32, 2002235.
Fe <sub>0.4</sub> Co <sub>0.6</sub> Se <sub>2</sub>	270	36	Energy Environ. Sci. 2021, 14, 365-373.
N-CoS <sub>2</sub> SSs	278	56	Adv. Sci. 2020, 7, 2001178.
Fe-NiSe NSs/CNTs	282	61	J. Mater. Chem. A. 2022, 10, 3102-3111.
P-Co <sub>3</sub> O <sub>4</sub>	283	85.3	Adv. Energy Mater. 2021, 11, 2100358.
Co <sub>2</sub> Mo <sub>3</sub> O <sub>8</sub>	290	87.5	Angew. Chem. Int. Ed. 2020, 59, 11948-11957.
W-NiCoP/NF	295	99	Appl. Mater. Today. 2021, 24, 101154.
Fe-Mo/Te-2	300	45.6	Chem. Eng. J. 2021, 423, 130168.
Te-Co <sub>3</sub> O <sub>4</sub>	313	75	Int. J. Energy Res. 2021, 10, 1-10.

**Table S5.** HER fitting results of EIS for Te-CoMoO<sub>3</sub>@C, Te-CoMoO<sub>3</sub>, CoMoO<sub>3</sub>@C, bare carbon, and Pt/C.

Catalysts	Rs (ohm)	Rct (ohm)	Error (%)
Te-CoMoO <sub>3</sub> @C	1.264	5.162	0.609
Te-CoMoO <sub>3</sub>	1.402	6.532	0.701
CoMoO <sub>3</sub> @C	1.573	7.215	0.651
Bare carbon	1.728	11.36	0.770
Pt/C	1.153	3.531	0.686

**Table S6.** The comparison of water splitting performances of Te-CoMoO<sub>3</sub>@C and other catalysts in the literature.

Catalysts	Overpotential (mV) 10 mA cm <sup>-2</sup>	Stability (h)	Reference
<b>Te-CoMoO<sub>3</sub>@C</b>	<b>1.54</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>This work</b>
DV-MnO <sub>2</sub>	1.55	100	Adv. Funct. Mater. 2021, 31, 2010718.
Fe-Ni <sub>5</sub> P <sub>4</sub> /NiFeOH-350	1.55	20	Appl. Catal. B Environ. 2021, 291, 119987.
V-NiCoP	1.56	56	J. Mater. Chem. A. 2021, 9, 12203-12213.
WN-Ni@ N, P-CNT-800	1.57	10	Appl. Catal. B Environ. 2021, 298, 120511.
Fe-doped NiSe NSs/CNTs	1.57	24	J. Mater. Chem. A. 2022, 10, 3102-3111.
Co, Nb-MoS <sub>2</sub> /TiO <sub>2</sub> HSs	1.57	60	Nano Energy. 2021, 82, 105750.
E-Mo-NiCoP-3	1.58	48	Nano-Micro Letters. 2019, 11, 55.
P-Co <sub>3</sub> O <sub>4</sub>	1.6	60	Adv. Energy Mater. 2021, 11, 2100358.
Ni-Fe-K <sub>0.23</sub> MnO <sub>2</sub> CNFs-300	1.62	24	Small. 2020, 16, 1905223.
Mn-CoP@ Mn-CoOOH	1.64	24	Appl. Catal. B Environ. 2021, 292, 120172.

**Table S7.** Overall water splitting fitting results of EIS for Te-CoMoO<sub>3</sub>@C, Te-CoMoO<sub>3</sub>, CoMoO<sub>3</sub>@C, bare carbon, and Pt/C||RuO<sub>2</sub>.

Catalysts	Rs (ohm)	Rct (ohm)	Error (%)
Te-CoMoO <sub>3</sub> @C	1.035	2.435	0.863
Te-CoMoO <sub>3</sub>	1.468	8.536	1.328
CoMoO <sub>3</sub> @C	1.657	10.368	1.143
Bare carbon	1.983	14.723	0.953
Pt/C  RuO <sub>2</sub>	1.172	3.879	1.035