## Supporting information for

KF-mediated controlled-synthesis of potassium ytterbium fluorides (doped with  $Er^{3+}$ ) with phase-dependent upconversion luminescence

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Fig. SI1 XRD patterns of potassium ytterbium fluorides synthesized with different molar ratio of KF to  $Ln^{3+}$  (Ln = Yb, Er): (a) KF/ $Ln^{3+} = 3$ , (b) KF/ $Ln^{3+} = 12.5$ , (c) KF/ $Ln^{3+} = 20$  and (d) KF/ $Ln^{3+} = 50$ . The standard data of KYb<sub>3</sub>F<sub>10</sub> (JCPDS No. 77-2204), KYb<sub>2</sub>F<sub>7</sub> (JCPDS No. 27-0459), KYbF<sub>4</sub> (JCPDS No. 27-0457) and K<sub>2</sub>YbF<sub>5</sub> (JCPDS No. 28-0850) are given as references.



Fig. SI2 SEM images of potassium ytterbium fluoride samples synthesized with different molar ratio of KF to  $Ln^{3+}$  (Ln = Yb, Er): (a) KF/L $n^{3+} = 3$ , (b) KF/L $n^{3+} = 12.5$ , (c) KF/L $n^{3+} = 20$  and (d) KF/L $n^{3+} = 50$ .



Fig. SI3 The EDS spectra of potassium ytterbium fluoride samples synthesized with different molar ratio of KF to  $Ln^{3+}$  (Ln = Yb, Er): (a) KF/ $Ln^{3+} = 3$ , (b) KF/ $Ln^{3+} = 12.5$ , (c) KF/ $Ln^{3+} = 20$  and (d) KF/ $Ln^{3+} = 50$ .

Sample	KF/Ln <sup>3+</sup>	K (at%)	Yb (at%)	Er (at%)	F (at%)
<b>S</b> 1	3	6.8	21.54	0.63	71.03
S2	12.5	9.22	23.91	0.56	66.31
<b>S</b> 3	20	16.56	15.56	0.32	67.56
<b>S4</b>	50	21.02	15.01	0.35	65.42



Fig. SI4 The CIE chromaticity coordinates of sample S1, S2, S3 and S4 under 980 nm laser excitation with different excitation power at the range of 50 to 500 mW.

Table SI1 EDS analysis results of sample S1, S2, S3 and S4.