

**Supplementary information for**

**Integration of Cd:ZnS QDs into ZIF-8 for enhanced selectivity toward Cu<sup>2+</sup> detection**

Weikang Yang,<sup>a</sup> Yonghang Yang,<sup>a</sup> Huihui Li,<sup>\*a</sup> Duoyu Lin,<sup>a</sup> Weiting Yang,<sup>a</sup> Dongyu Guo,<sup>\*b</sup> Qinhe Pan<sup>\*a</sup>

<sup>a</sup>Key Laboratory of Advanced Materials of Tropical Island Resources of Ministry of Education, College of Science,  
Hainan University, Haikou 570228, China

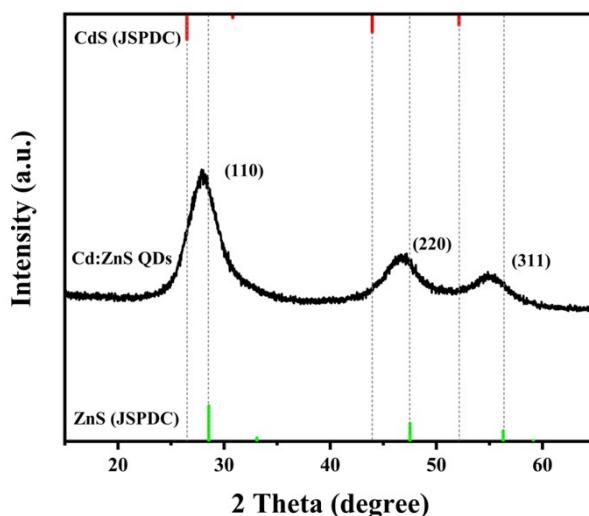
<sup>b</sup>Department of Clinical Laboratory, Xiamen Huli Guoyu Clinic, Co., Ltd., Xiamen 361000, China

\*Corresponding authors. E-mail: lihuihui@hainanu.edu.cn (Huihui Li), xiamenhaijin@163.com (Dongyu Guo),  
panqinhe@163.com (Qinhe Pan)

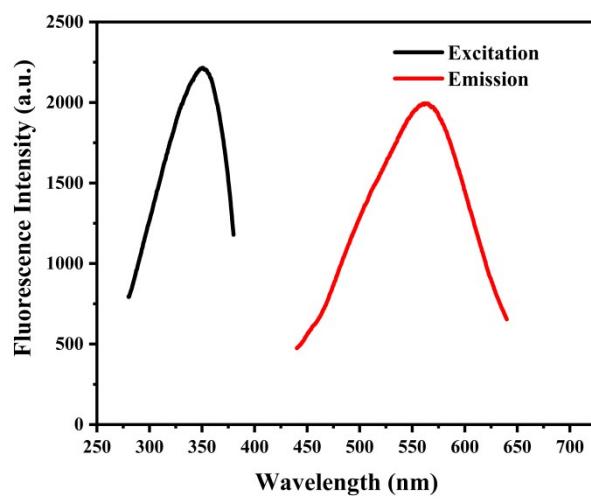
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**Table S1** Contents of Cd element in Cd:ZnS QDs and Cd:ZnS QDs@ZIF-8.

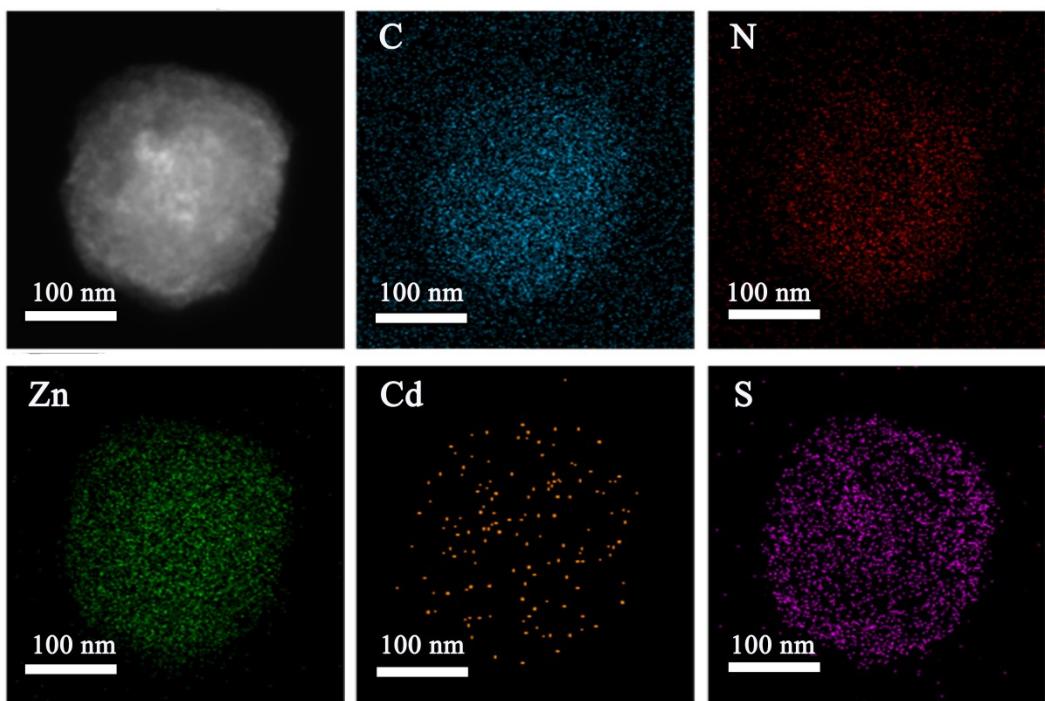
Material	Content of Cd element
Cd:ZnS QDs	32.6wt%
Cd:ZnS QDs@ZIF-8	3.4wt%



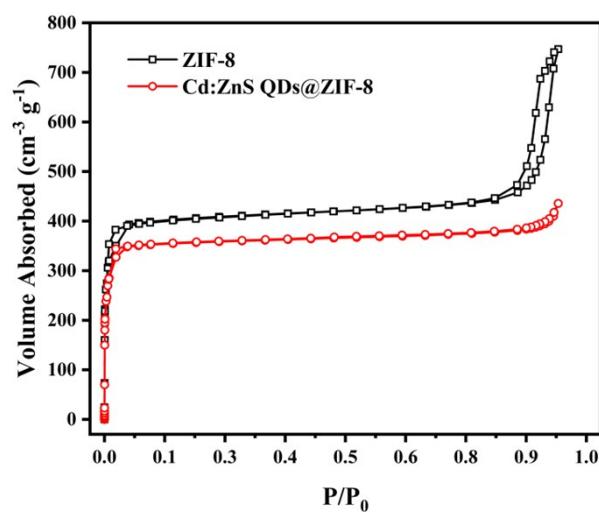
**Fig. S1** PXRD pattern of Cd:ZnS QDs, bottom/top bar: cubic ZnS/CdS.



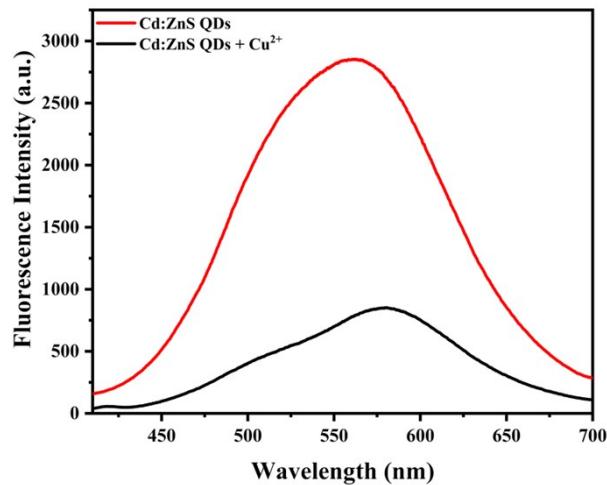
**Fig. S2** Excitation and emission spectra of Cd:ZnS QDs.



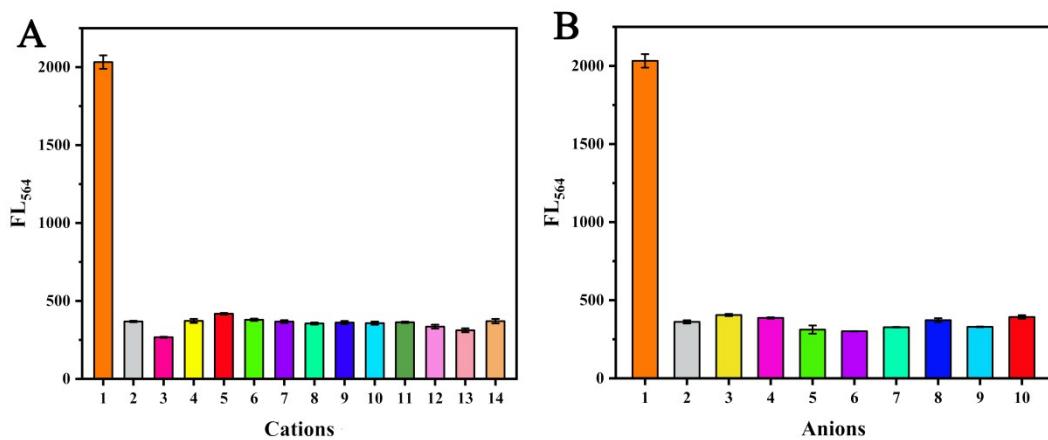
**Fig. S3** EDX mapping of Cd:ZnS QDs@ZIF-8 during TEM measurement.



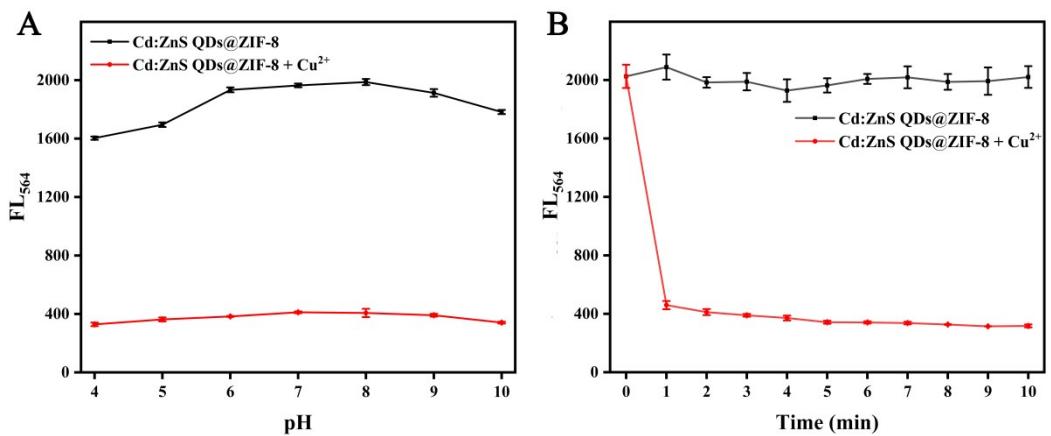
**Fig. S4** Nitrogen adsorption isotherms of ZIF-8 and Cd:ZnS QDs@ZIF-8 at 77 K.



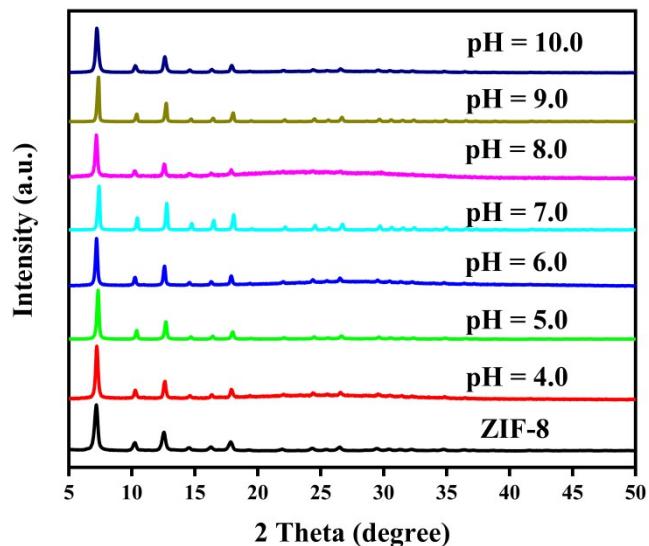
**Fig. S5** Fluorescence spectra of Cd:ZnS QDs (0.3 mM) before and after the addition of Cu<sup>2+</sup> (5 μM).



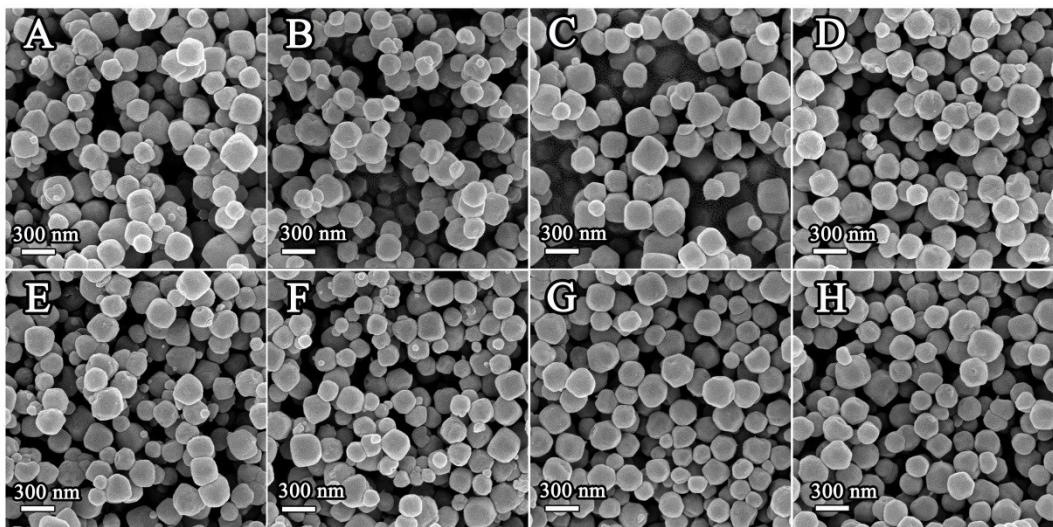
**Fig. S6** Fluorescence intensities of Cd:ZnS QDs@ZIF-8 (250 μg mL<sup>-1</sup>) after the addition of Cu<sup>2+</sup> (5 μM) in the presence of different cations (5 μM) (A) or anions (5 μM) (B); (A) 1-none, 2-Cu<sup>2+</sup>, 3-Cu<sup>2+</sup> + Na<sup>+</sup>, 4-Cu<sup>2+</sup> + K<sup>+</sup>, 5-Cu<sup>2+</sup> + Mg<sup>2+</sup>, 6-Cu<sup>2+</sup> + Ca<sup>2+</sup>, 7-Cu<sup>2+</sup> + Mn<sup>2+</sup>, 8-Cu<sup>2+</sup> + Co<sup>2+</sup>, 9-Cu<sup>2+</sup> + Ni<sup>2+</sup>, 10-Cu<sup>2+</sup> + Zn<sup>2+</sup>, 11-Cu<sup>2+</sup> + Cd<sup>2+</sup>, 12-Cu<sup>2+</sup> + Al<sup>3+</sup>, 13-Cu<sup>2+</sup> + Cr<sup>3+</sup>, 14-Cu<sup>2+</sup> + Fe<sup>3+</sup>; (B) 1-none, 2-Cu<sup>2+</sup>, 3-Cu<sup>2+</sup> + F<sup>-</sup>, 4-Cu<sup>2+</sup> + Cl<sup>-</sup>, 5-Cu<sup>2+</sup> + Br<sup>-</sup>, 6-Cu<sup>2+</sup> + I<sup>-</sup>, 7-Cu<sup>2+</sup> + CO<sub>3</sub><sup>2-</sup>, 8-Cu<sup>2+</sup> + NO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup>, 9-Cu<sup>2+</sup> + SO<sub>4</sub><sup>2-</sup>, 10-Cu<sup>2+</sup> + PO<sub>4</sub><sup>3-</sup>.



**Fig. S7** Effects of pH (A) and time (B) on the fluorescence intensities of Cd:ZnS QDs@ZIF-8 ( $250 \mu\text{g mL}^{-1}$ ) in the absence and presence of  $Cu^{2+}$  ( $5 \mu\text{M}$ ).



**Fig. S8** PXRD patterns of Cd:ZnS QDs@ZIF-8 before and after immersed in aqueous solutions with different pH values (4.0, 5.0, 6.0, 7.0, 8.0, 9.0 and 10.0) for 1 h.



**Fig. S9** SEM images of Cd:ZnS QDs@ZIF-8 before (A) and after immersed in aqueous solutions with pH values of 4.0 (B), 5.0 (C), 6.0 (D), 7.0 (E), 8.0 (F), 9.0 (G) and 10.0 (H) for 1 h.