

Supporting Information

Zinc-based Electron Transport Materials for Over 9.6 %- Efficient S-rich $\text{Sb}_2(\text{S},\text{Se})_3$ Solar Cells

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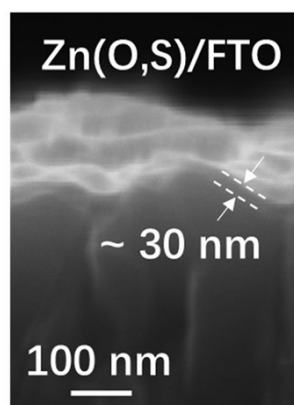
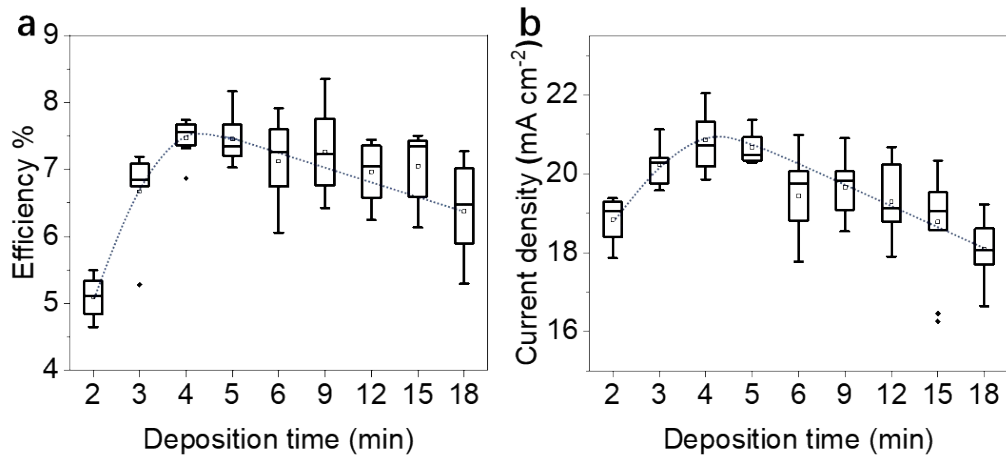


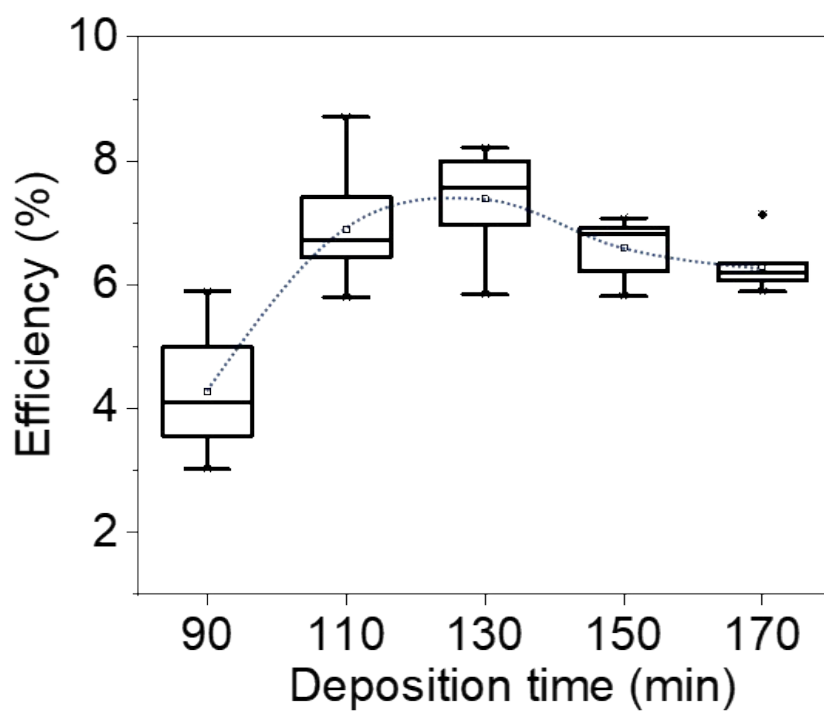
Figure S1 SEM image of Zn(O,S) layer deposited onto FTO substrate. The thickness of Zn(O,S) is about 30 nm.



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19 **Figure S2** Statistical boxplot of conversion efficiency (%) and current density ($mA\ cm^{-2}$) for
 20 $Zn(O,S)/CdS$ -based $Sb_2(S,Se)_3$ solar cells as a function of CdS deposition time (2 min - 18 min).

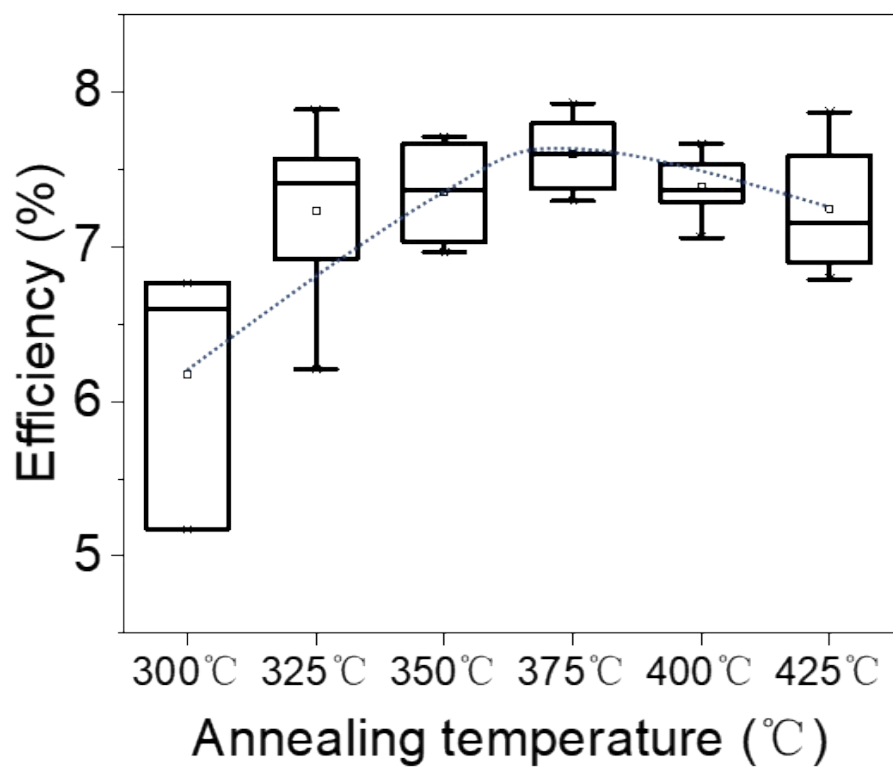
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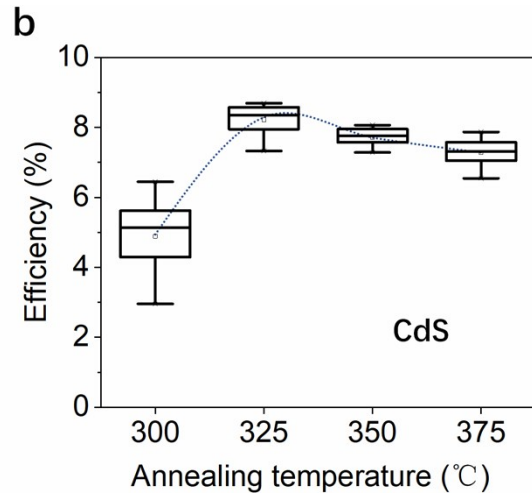
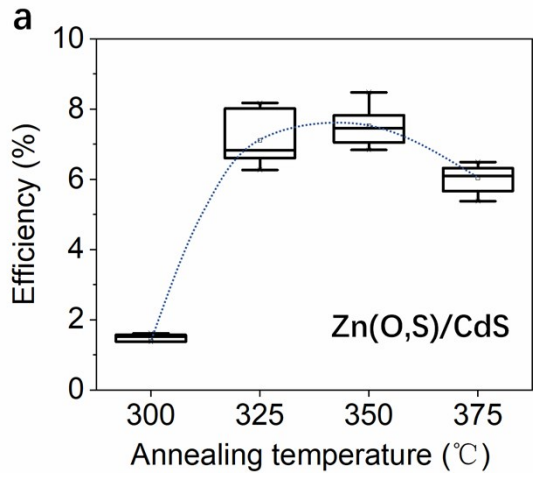
23 **Figure S3** Statistical boxplot of conversion efficiency for Zn(O,S)/CdS ETL -based $\text{Sb}_2(\text{S,Se})_3$ solar
24 cells as a function of $\text{Sb}_2(\text{S,Se})_3$ deposition time (90 min - 170 min), for which CdS deposition time
25 is fixed at 4 min.

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28 **Figure S4** Statistical boxplot of conversion efficiency for Zn(O,S)/CdS ETL-based Sb₂(S,Se)₃ solar
29 cells as a function of annealing temperature of CdCl₂ treatment (300°C - 425°C). The CdS deposition
30 time is fixed at 4 min and the Sb₂(S,Se)₃ deposition time at 130 min.

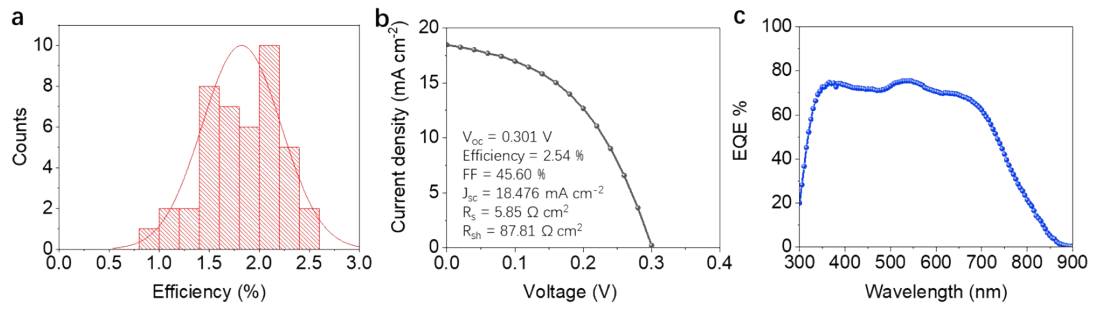


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32 **Figure S5** Statistical boxplot of conversion efficiency (%) for Zn(O,S)/CdS ETL-based and CdS

33 ETL-based $\text{Sb}_2(\text{S,Se})_3$ solar cells as a function of annealing temperature of $\text{Sb}_2(\text{S,Se})_3$ layer.

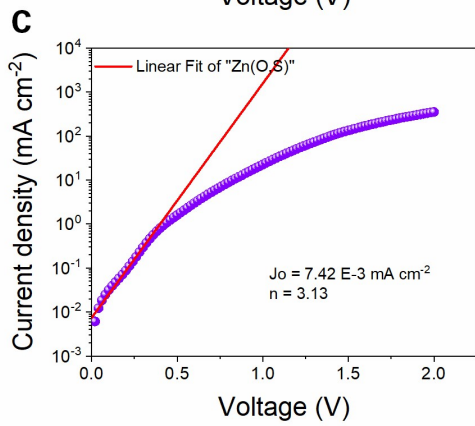
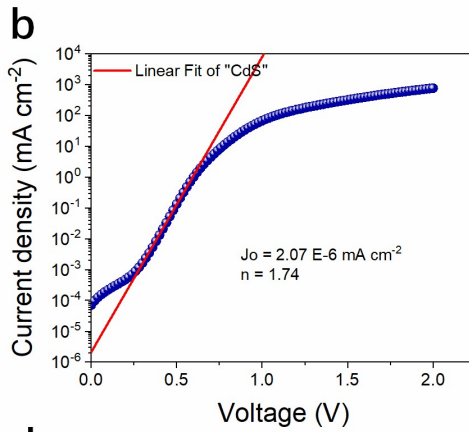
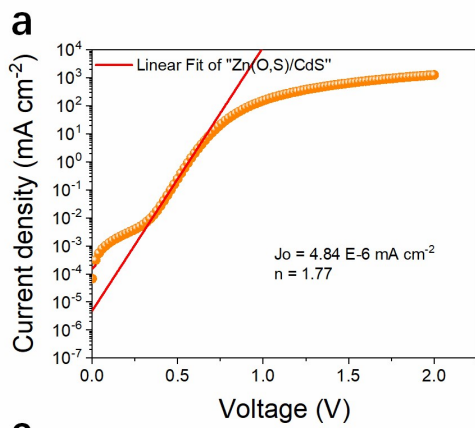
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36 **Figure S6** (a) Histogram of device conversion efficiencies obtained from over 40 individual solar
37 cells fabricated with a thin CdS ETL that only uses 4 min deposition time. (b) J - V curve and (c)
38 EQE spectrum of a representative solar cell with only 4 min CdS deposition.

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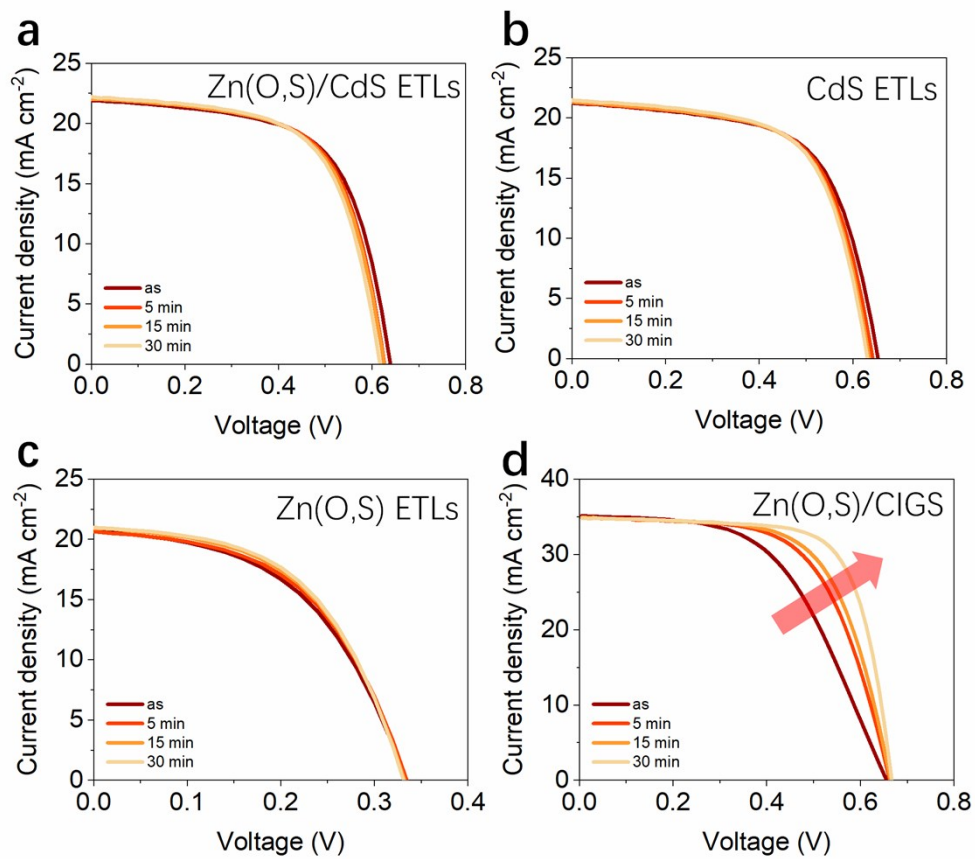
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| ETLs | n | Jo (mA cm^{-2}) |
|-------------|------|-------------------------------|
| Zn(O,S)/CdS | 1.77 | 4.84 e-6 |
| CdS | 1.74 | 2.07 e-6 |
| Zn(O,S) | 3.13 | 7.42 e-3 |

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41 **Figure S7** Semi-logarithmic J - V plots for diode ideality factor (n) and saturation current density
 42 (J_0) calculations.

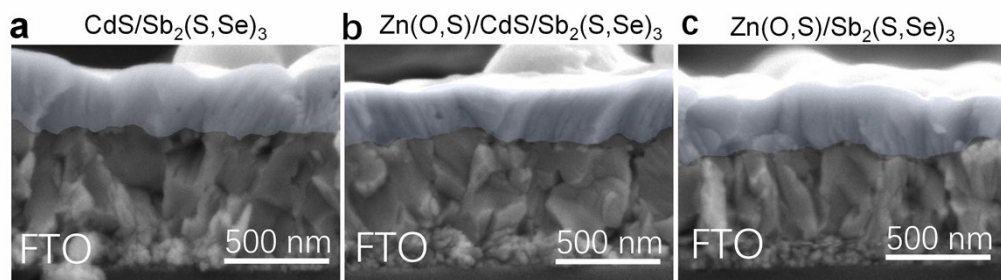
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45 **Figure S8** Illumination time dependence of $J-V$ curves for $\text{Sb}_2(\text{S,Se})_3$ solar cells: (a) with
 46 Zn(O,S)/CdS ETL, (b) with CdS ETL, and (c) with Zn(O,S) ETL. (d) Illumination time dependence
 47 of $J-V$ curves for a Zn(O,S)-based CIGS thin-film solar cell.

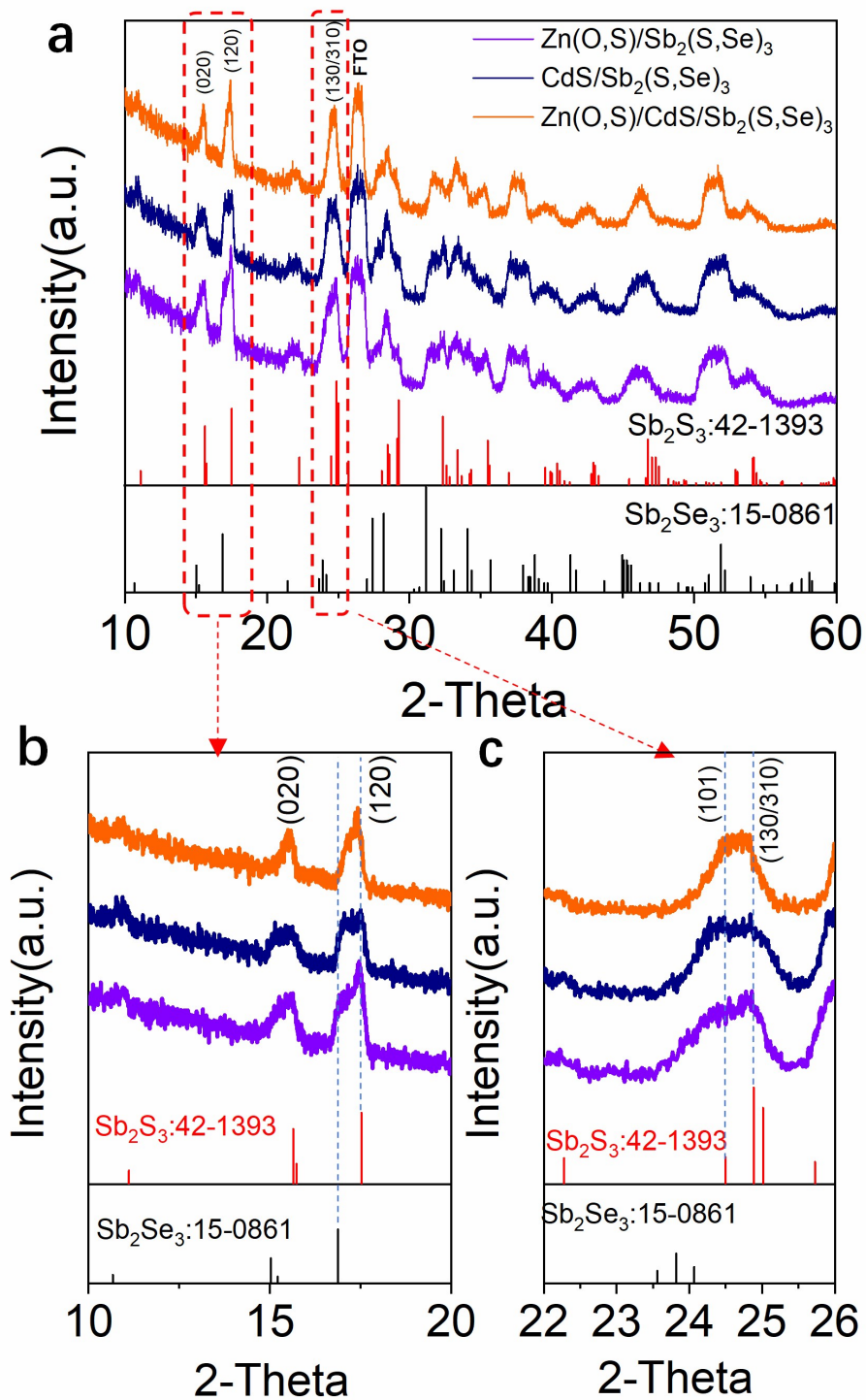
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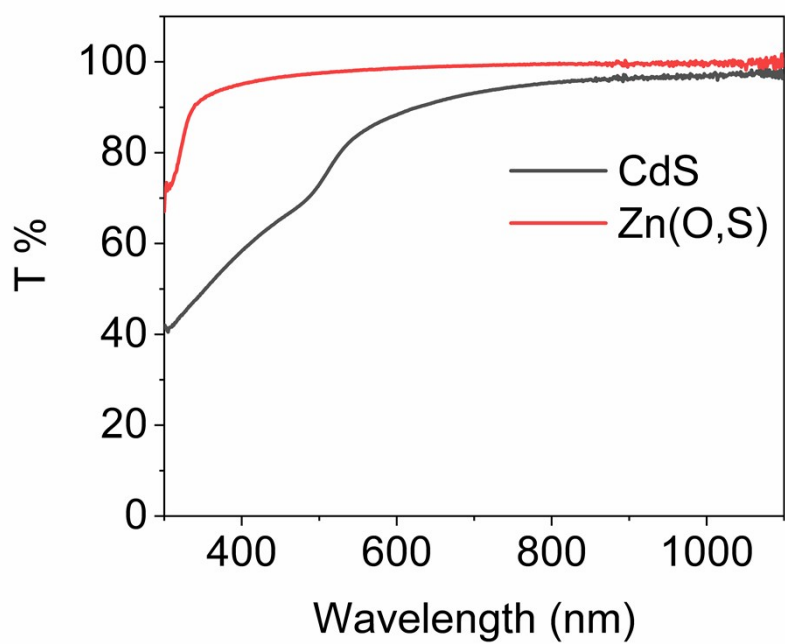
50 **Figure S9** Cross-sectional SEM images of annealed Sb₂(S,Se)₃ layer deposited on CdS,
51 Zn(O,S)/CdS, and Zn(O,S) ETLs, respectively.

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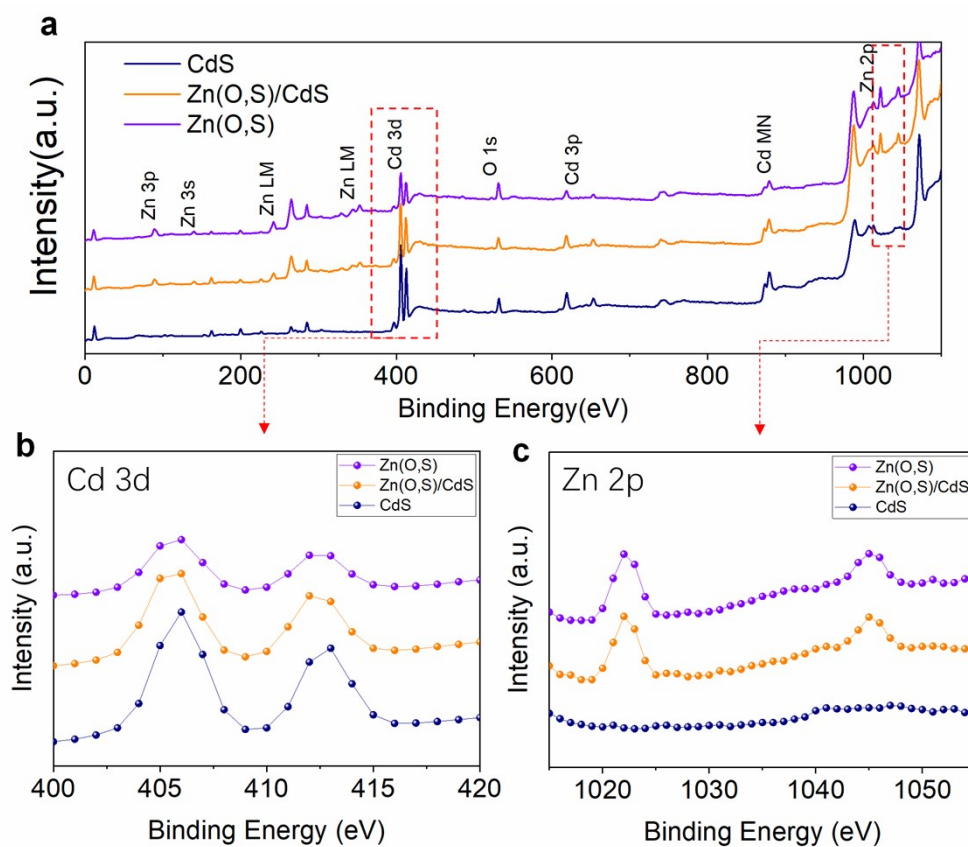
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54 **Figure S10** GIXRD spectra of Sb₂(S,Se)₃ layer deposited on different ETLs: Zn(O,S)/CdS, CdS,
55 and Zn(O,S).



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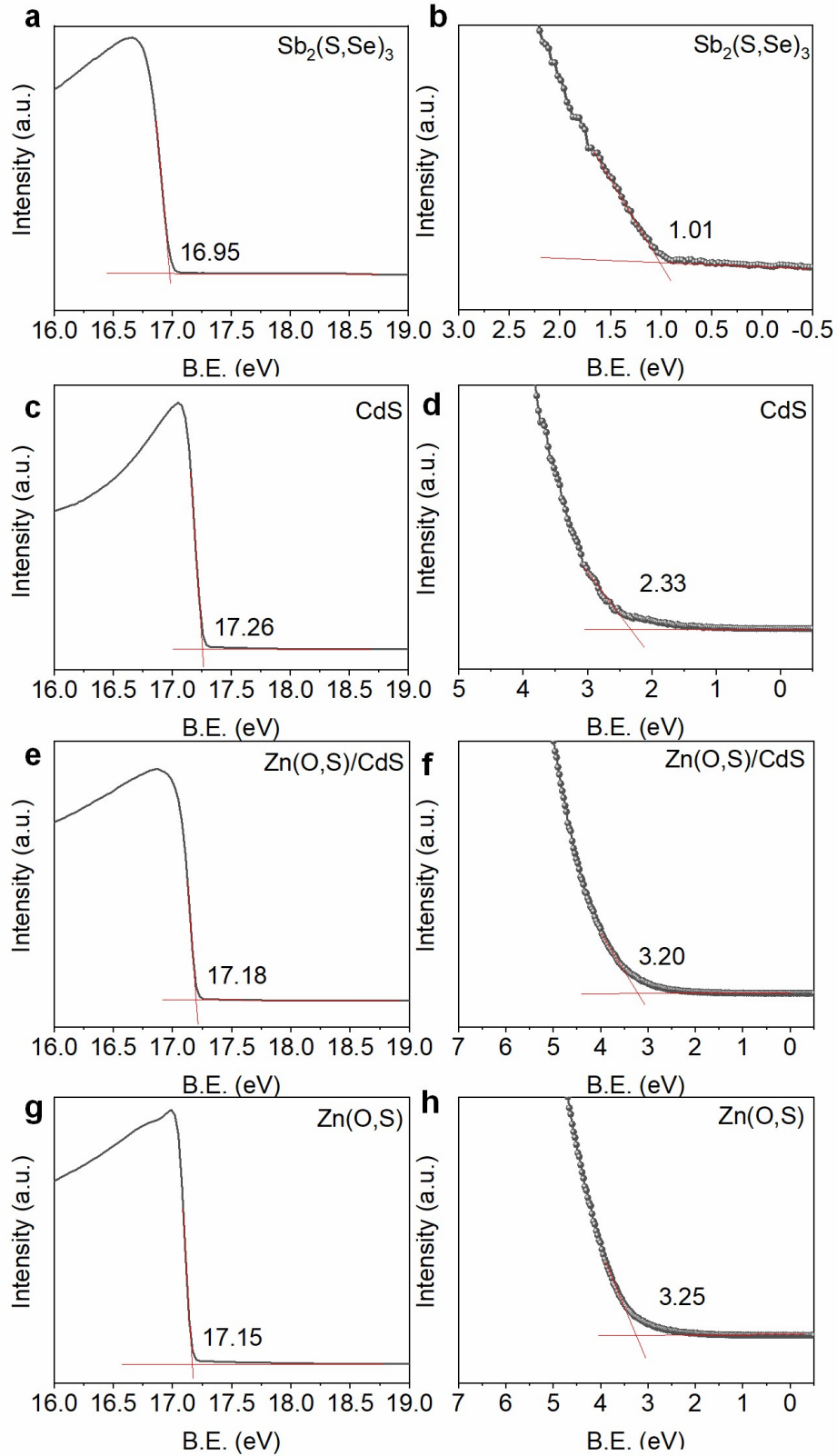
Figure S11 Transmittance spectra of pure Zn(O,S) and CdS layers without CdCl₂-PDT.



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62 **Figure S12** (a) XPS full spectra of different ETLs: Zn(O,S), Zn(O,S)/CdS, CdS. (b) Cd 3d and (c)

63 Zn 2p XPS signals of various ETLs' surfaces.



65

66 **Figure S13** Secondary electron cut-offs and valence band edge estimated from the UPS spectrum
 67 of (a-b) $\text{Sb}_2(\text{S,Se})_3$, (c-d) CdS ETL, (e-f) Zn(O,S)/CdS ETL, and (g-h) Zn(O,S) ETL.

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69 **Table S1** Parameters of Sb-based solar cells with Cd-free or Cd-reduced ETLs.

| ETLs | Structure | V _{oc} (V) | PCE (%) | FF (%) | J _{sc} (mA cm ⁻²) | ref |
|---|--|------------------------|------------|-----------|--|------|
| TiO ₂ | FTO/bl-TiO ₂ /mp-TiO ₂ /Sb ₂ S ₃ /PCPDTBT/PEDOT:PSS/Au | 0.711 | 7.5 | 65 | 16.1 | [1] |
| | FTO/c-TiO ₂ /Sb ₂ S ₃ /Spiro-OMeTAD/Au | 0.69 | 6.56 | 55.18 | 17.3 | [2] |
| | FTO/TiO ₂ /Sb ₂ S ₃ /spiro-OMeTAD/Au | 0.599 | 4.93 | 47.62 | 15.39 | [3] |
| | FTO/mp-TiO ₂ /Sb ₂ S ₃ /PCPDTBT-PCBM/Au | 0.595 | 6.3 | 65.5 | 16 | [4] |
| | FTO/c-TiO ₂ /Sb ₂ S ₃ /Spiro-OMeTAD/Au | 0.671 | 6.78 | 54.8 | 18.43 | [5] |
| | FTO/TiO ₂ /Sb ₂ S ₃ /P3HT/Au | 0.5 | 1.9 | 42 | 8.94 | [6] |
| | FTO/bl-TiO ₂ /TiO ₂ array/Sb ₂ S ₃ /Spiro-OMeTAD/Au | 0.71 | 5.8 | 50.72 | 16.11 | [7] |
| | FTO/TiO ₂ /Sb ₂ S ₃ /spiro-OMeTAD/Au | 0.65 | 7.08 | 61.61 | 17.69 | [8] |
| | FTO/c-TiO ₂ /Sb ₂ S ₃ /Spiro-OMeTAD/Au | 0.647 | 6.35 | 57.1 | 17.19 | [9] |
| | FTO/TiO ₂ /Sb ₂ S ₃ /Au | 0.69 | 5.4 | 51.2 | 14.3 | [10] |
| | FTO/TiO ₂ /Sb ₂ S ₃ /spiro-OMeTAD/SbCl ₃ /Au | 0.72 | 7.1 | 57.18 | 17.24 | [11] |
| | FTO/c-TiO ₂ /Cs ₂ CO ₃ /Sb ₂ S ₃ /P3HT/Au | 0.596 | 3.97 | 56.89 | 11.71 | [12] |
| | FTO/TiO ₂ /Sb ₂ Se ₃ /SpiroOMeTAD/Au | 0.275 | 2.0 | 37.7 | 19.7 | [13] |
| | FTO/TiO ₂ /Sb ₂ Se ₃ /PCDTBT/Au | 0.419 | 6.56 | 48.5 | 32.3 | [14] |
| | FTO/TiO ₂ /Sb ₂ Se ₃ /PbS CQD/Au | 0.386 | 7.62 | 60.6 | 32.6 | [15] |
| FTO/c-TiO ₂ /Sb ₂ (S _{1-x} Se _x) ₃ /spiro-OMeTAD/Au | 0.491 | 7.42 | 59.5 | 25.4 | [16] | |
| FTO/TiO ₂ /Sb ₂ (S _{1-x} Se _x) ₃ /spiro-OMeTAD/Au | 0.56 | 5.71 | 52.34 | 19.48 | [17] | |
| FTO/mp-TiO ₂ /Sb ₂ Se ₃ /Sb ₂ S ₃ /P3HT/Au | 0.478 | 6.6 | 55.6 | 24.9 | [18] | |
| Al ₂ O ₃ | FTO/Al ₂ O ₃ /Sb ₂ S ₃ /P3HT/PEDOT:PSS/Ag | 0.674 | 2.48 | 43.7 | 7.8 | [19] |
| ZrO | FTO/ZrO ₂ /Sb ₂ S ₃ /P3HT/PEDOT:PSS/Ag | 0.712 | 2.64 | 53.5 | 6.8 | [19] |
| SnO ₂ | FTO/SnO ₂ /Sb ₂ S ₃ /P3HT/Au | 0.56 | 1.32 | 45.4 | 5.2 | [20] |
| | FTO/SnO ₂ /Sb ₂ S ₃ /P3HT/Au | 0.585 | 2.8 | 45.24 | 10.57 | [6] |
| | FTO/SnO ₂ /Sb ₂ Se ₃ /Au | 0.32 | 3.05 | 38.64 | 25.26 | [21] |
| | FTO/SnO ₂ /Sb ₂ Se ₃ /Au | 0.312 | 2.33 | 39.35 | 18.47 | [22] |
| ZnO | FTO/ZnO/Sb ₂ Se ₃ /Au | 0.366 | 3.22 | 40.5 | 23.6 | [23] |
| | FTO/r-ZnO/Sb ₂ Se ₃ /Au | 0.391 | 5.93 | 57.8 | 26.2 | [24] |
| In ₂ S ₃ | Mo-foil/MoSe ₂ /Sb ₂ Se ₃ /In ₂ S ₃ /IZO/ITO/Au | 0.37 | 5.35 | 51.9 | 28.22 | [25] |
| ZnO/ZnMgO | FTO/ZnO/ZnMgO/Sb ₂ Se ₃ /Au | 0.360 | 4.45 | 48 | 26.2 | [23] |
| TiO ₂ /CdS | FTO/TiO ₂ /CdS/Sb ₂ Se ₃ /SpiroOMeTAD/Au | 0.340 | 3.9 | 41.9 | 27.2 | [13] |
| | FTO/ TiO ₂ /CdS/Sb ₂ (S,Se) ₃ /Spiro-OMeTAD / Au | 0.792 | 5.73 | 60.9 | 12.03 | [26] |
| | FTO/TiO ₂ /CdS/Sb ₂ (S,Se) ₃ /C/Ag | 0.51 | 5.47 | 48.98 | 22.03 | [27] |
| | FTO / TiO ₂ /In: CdS / Sb ₂ (S,Se) ₃ /Spiro-OMeTAD/Au | 0.59 | 6.63 | 62.39 | 18.14 | [28] |
| CdS/SnO ₂ | FTO/CdS/SnO ₂ /Sb ₂ Se ₃ /Au | 0.360 | 5.27 | 52.96 | 27.8 | [22] |
| | FTO/CdS/SnO ₂ /Sb ₂ Se ₃ /Au | 0.432 | 7.5 | 63.2 | 27.6 | [29] |

| | | | | | | |
|-------------------------------------|---|-------|------|-------|-------|------|
| SnO ₂ /CdS | FTO/SnO ₂ /CdS/Sb ₂ Se ₃ /Au | 0.385 | 5.18 | 55 | 24.5 | [30] |
| | FTO/SnO ₂ /CdS/Sb ₂ (S,Se) ₃ /C/Ag | 0.74 | 5.2 | 55.8 | 12.5 | [31] |
| ZnO/CdS | FTO/ZnO/CdS/ Sb ₂ (S,Se) ₃ /Au | 0.48 | 5.73 | 54.5 | 21.89 | [32] |
| Cd _x Zn _{1-x} S | Mo/Sb ₂ Se ₃ /Cd _x Zn _{1-x} S/IZO/AZO | 0.403 | 6.71 | 64.78 | 25.69 | [33] |

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71 **Table S2** Recipes of CdS deposited by CBD method.

| [Cd ²⁺] ^a | [S ²⁻] ^b | NH ₄ OH | Deposition time | Deposition Temp. |
|----------------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------|-----------------|------------------|
| 0.3 mmol | 16 mmol | 0.38 mol | 0-18 min | 65°C |

72 a: Cd²⁺, CdSO₄;

73 b: S²⁻, CH₄N₂S, thiourea.

74 Details for CdS layer deposition. First, 140 ml deionized water, 20 ml (0.3 mmol) CdSO₄ solution, and
75 26 ml (0.38 mol) NH₃·H₂O solution were mixed and stirred for two minutes. Then, 13 ml (16 mmol)
76 CH₄N₂S solution was added into the above solution and stirred for another 30 seconds. After that, the
77 chemically cleaned FTO substrates were immersed into the precursor solution within the glass beaker,
78 which was subsequently transferred to a hot water bath deposition system where the temperature was set
79 at 65°C. After deposition, the coated samples were rinsed thoroughly with deionized water and then
80 blow-dried with N₂.

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82 **Table S3** Recipes of Zn(O,S) deposited by CBD method.

| [Zn ²⁺] ^a | [S ²⁻] ^b | [Complex agent] ^c | NH ₄ OH | Deposition time | Deposition Temp. |
|----------------------------------|---------------------------------|------------------------------|--------------------|-----------------|------------------|
| 2.5 mmol | 1.5 mmol | 1.3 mmol | 0.27 mol | 15 min | 85°C |

83 a: Zn²⁺, ZnSO₄;

84 b: S²⁻, C₂H₅NS, thioacetamide;

85 c: C₆H₅Na₃O₇·2H₂O, trisodium citrate.

86 Details for Zn(O,S) layer deposition. First, 166 ml deionized water, 7.5 ml (2.5 mmol) ZnSO₄ solution,
87 and 2.5 ml (1.3 mmol) C₆H₅Na₃O₇·2H₂O solution were mixed and stirred for five minutes. Then, 6.25
88 ml (1.5 mmol) C₂H₅NS solution and 18 ml (0.27 mol) NH₃·H₂O solution were added into the above
89 solution and stirred for another 30 seconds. After that, the chemically cleaned FTO substrates were put
90 into the precursor solution within the glass beaker, which was subsequently transferred to a hot water
91 bath deposition system where the temperature was set at 85°C. After deposition, the coated samples
92 were rinsed thoroughly with deionized water and then blow-dried with N₂.

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