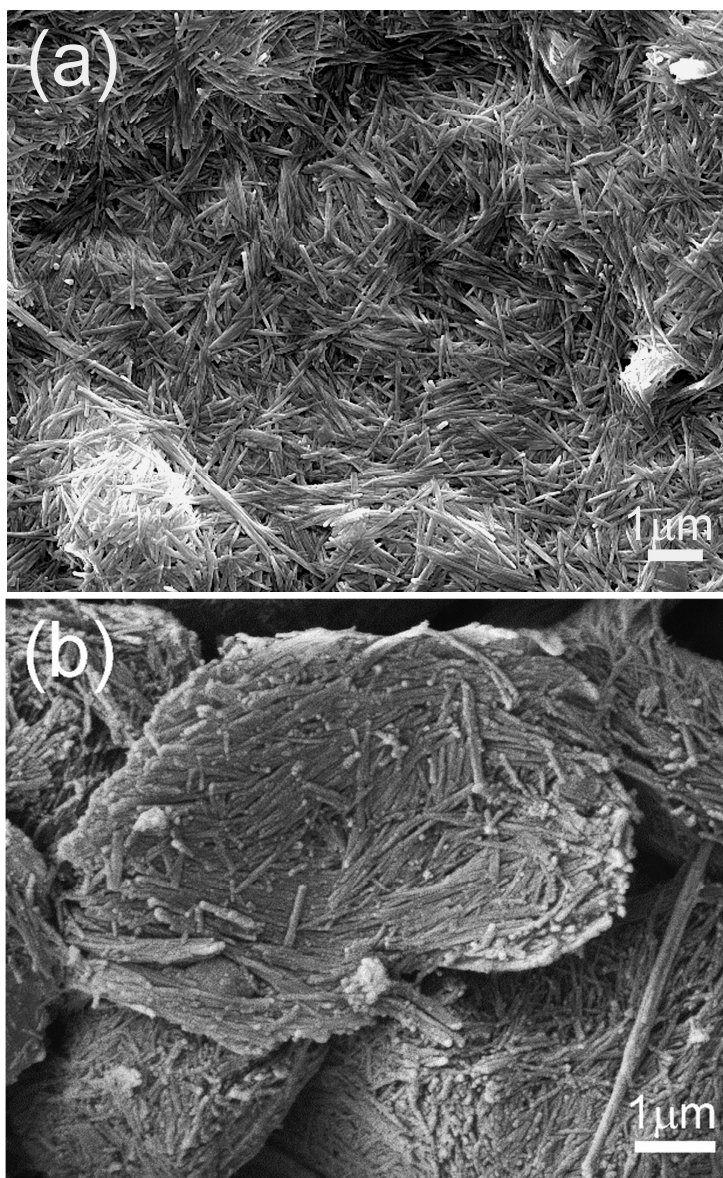


Supplementary Materials: Enhanced Potential Toxic Metal Removal Using a Novel Hierarchical $\text{SiO}_2\text{-Mg}(\text{OH})_2$ Nanocomposite Derived from Sepiolite

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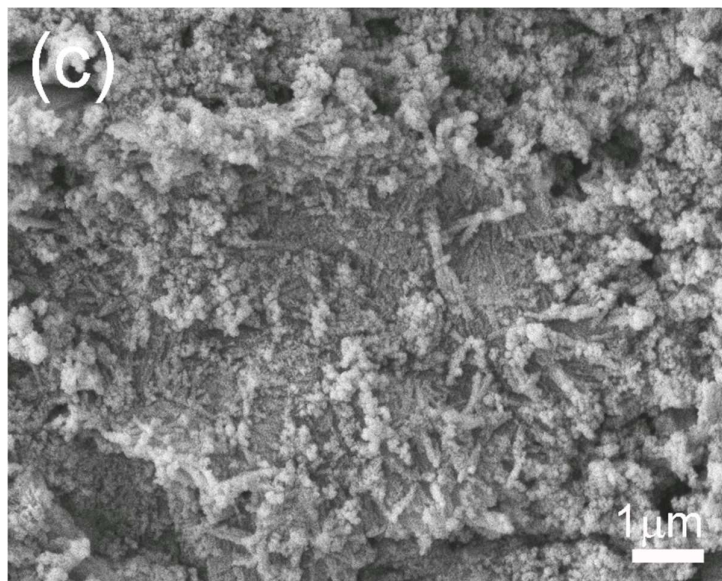


Figure S1. Typical SEM images of raw sepiolite (a), acid-activated sepiolite (b), and sepiolite modified by sequential acid–base treatment (c).

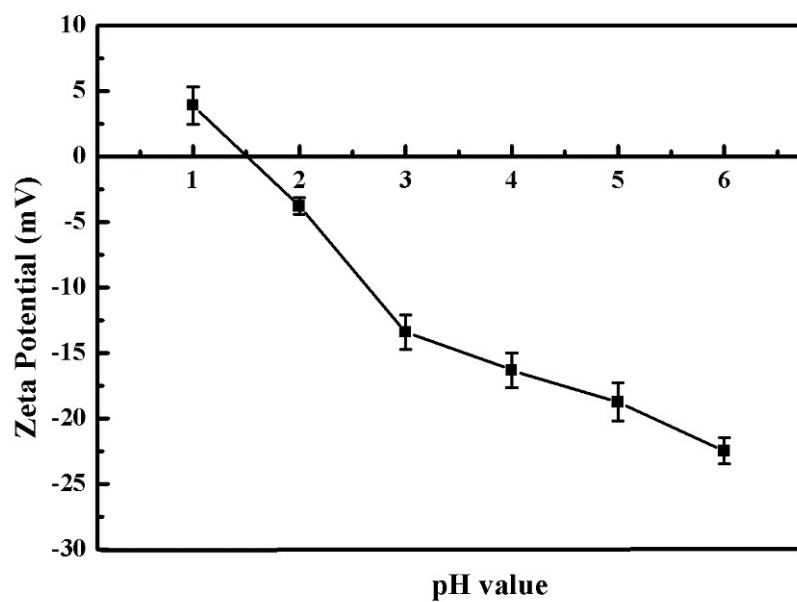


Figure S2. Zeta potential-pH profile for the $\text{SiO}_2\text{-Mg(OH)}_2$ nanocomposite in deionized water.

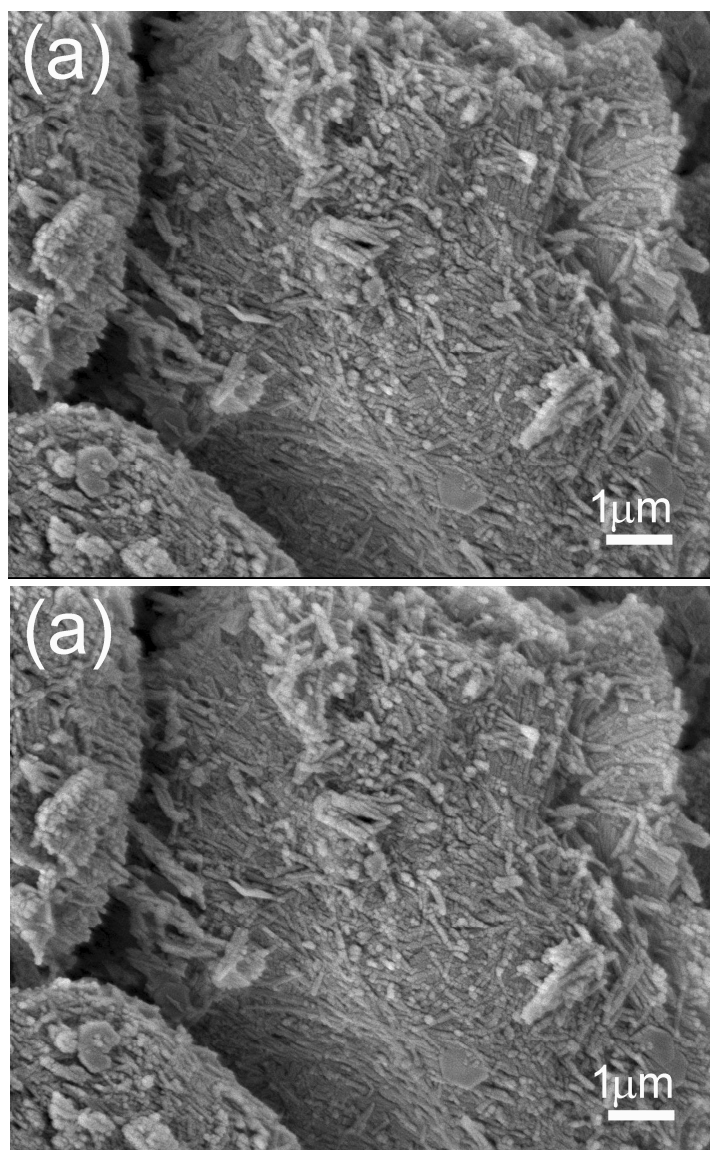


Figure S3. SEM images of Pb(II)-loaded $\text{SiO}_2\text{-Mg}(\text{OH})_2$ nanocomposite (a) and Cd(II)-loaded $\text{SiO}_2\text{-Mg}(\text{OH})_2$ nanocomposite (b).