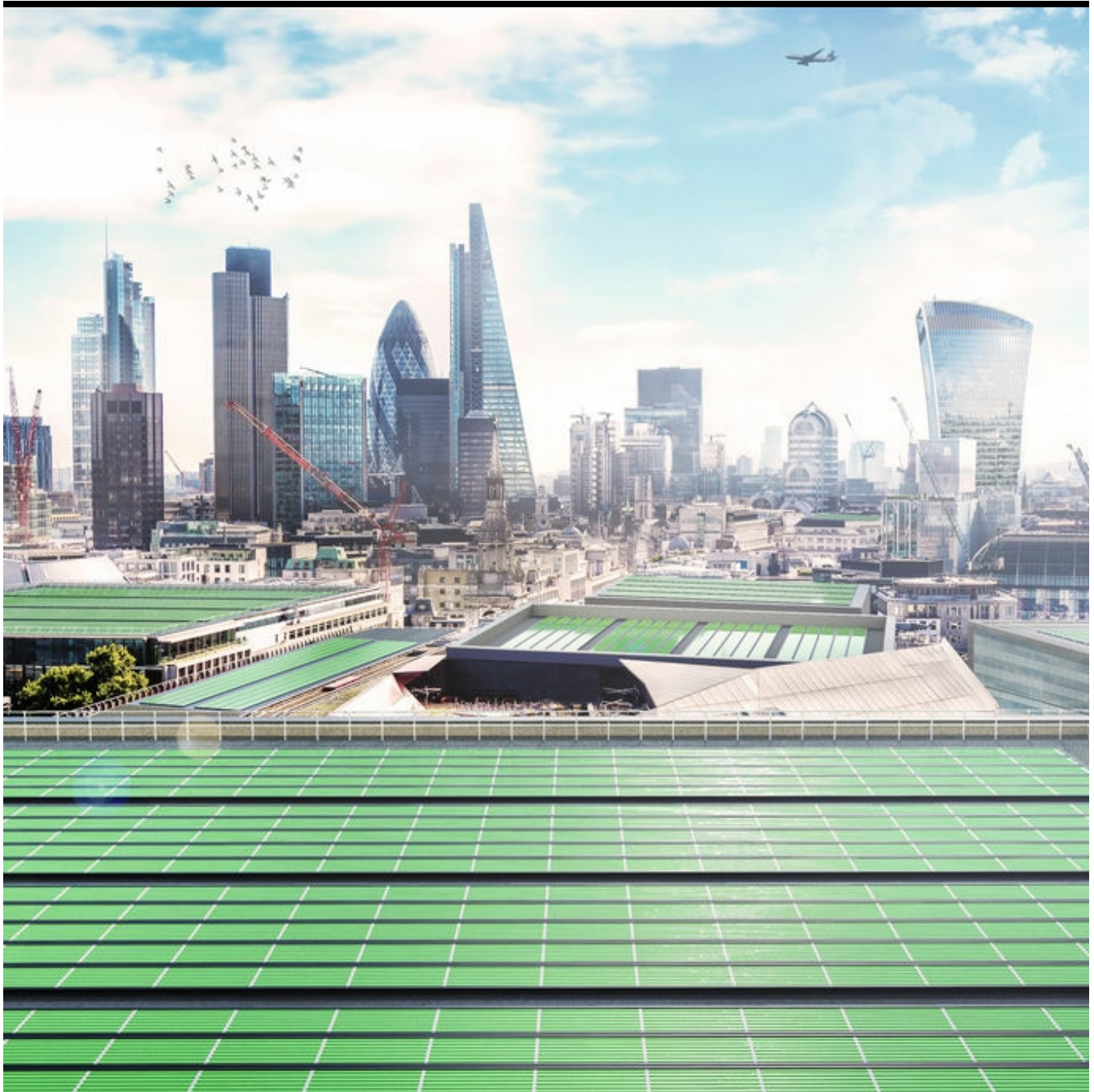


THESE BIOSOLAR PANELS WILL TACKLE AIR POLLUTION

By Livvy Houghton and Alex Hawkins

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London – [Imperial College London](#) is collaborating with start-up [Arborea](#) to develop pioneering biotechnology to help improve urban air quality.

The first-of-its-kind technology purifies the air through the photosynthesis of microscopic plant life, such as algae and phytoplankton. According to the research team, Arborea's system can remove carbon dioxide and produce breathable oxygen at the same rate as 100 trees from the surface area of just a single tree. The process also supplies a sustainable source of protein that can be used as a nutritious additive in plant-based foods.

'When I founded Arborea my goal was to tackle climate change while addressing the critical issues related to the food system,' says Julian Melchiorri, founder and CEO of Arborea. 'This pilot will produce sustainable healthy food additives while purifying the air, producing oxygen and removing carbon dioxide from the surrounding environment.'

In our **Uprooted Diets** macrotrend, we examine the rise of urban food systems as climate change has a seismic impact on what we eat and where it comes from.