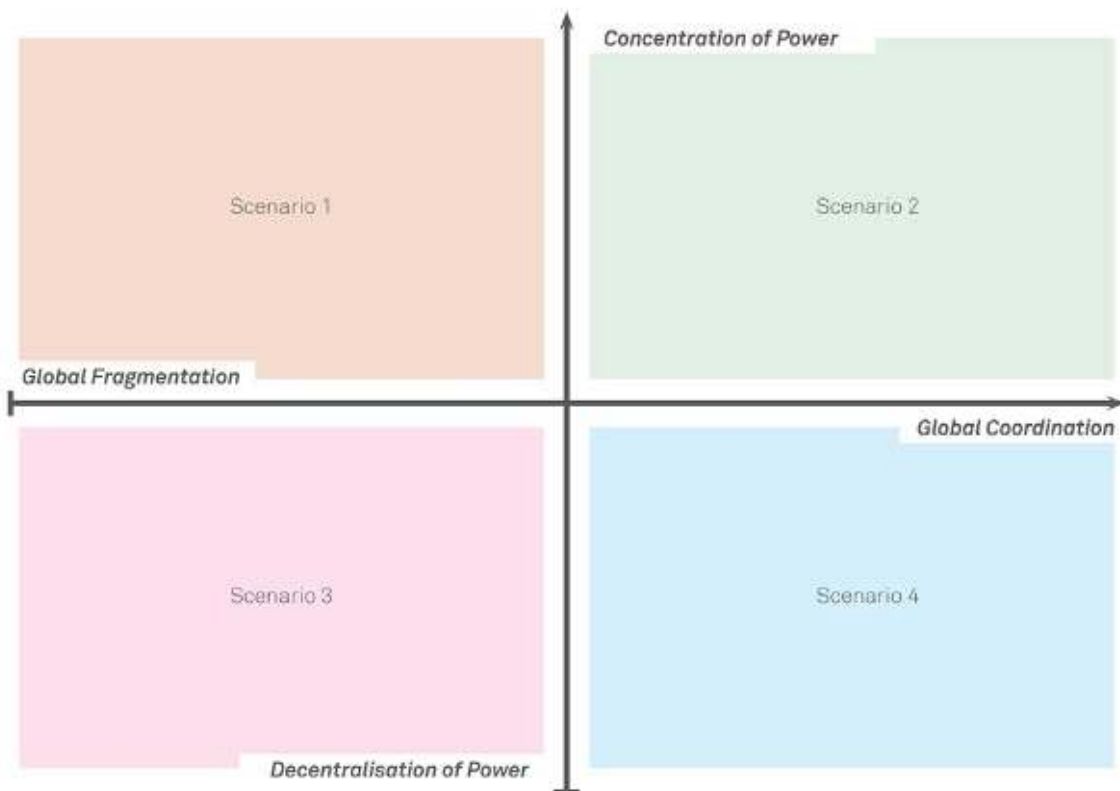


Development organisation of the future: summary of scenarios



Scenario 1: concentration of power – global fragmentation

Wealth and power have become even more concentrated. The world has suffered from wholesale automation. Technologies are owned by a few very large companies. The very wealthy are using advances in AI, biotechnology and genomics to live healthier and longer lives. An underground of technologists and makers emerges to repair/repurpose and unlock devices for their own good. There is a rise in civil wars, increasing intellectual property theft, cyber and biological threats. Emphasis is on protectionism and border controls. The privatisation of clean water and food scarcity dominates the agenda. People look to strong leaders to mitigate the impacts of increasingly volatility. Because of the power large business now wield, they often come into conflict with autocratic super-states.

Scenario 2: concentration of power – global coordination

Following a series of major climate change catastrophes which undermined public confidence in governments, highly autocratic states and all-powerful mega companies have stepped in to take control of the world. Individual needs and freedoms are subservient to the greater public good. The white men of Silicon Valley make large scale investments in renewables effecting positive change in the environment in some areas. The Bretton

Woods institutions have been overhauled to establish technology-augmented governance in order to regulate and preserve the new global order. Asia dominates geopolitics.

Scenario 3: Decentralised power – global fragmentation

There is widespread disillusionment with the state, with people instead taking control in hyper-local clusters focusing on resilience and self-sufficiency. Maintaining central control has become harder. There is a chaotic migration landscape, with large numbers of people relocating frequently around the globe to access resources and services, but refugees are often forced to create their own black markets. The Bretton Woods system and traditional representative democracy has collapsed, resulting in a feudalisation of politics matching local clusters. Once the internet become flooded with 'zombie content' created by bots, humans transferred much of their infrastructure away from the online realm.

Scenario 4: Decentralised power – global coordination

The nation state has eroded, and Bretton Woods system has collapsed, giving rise to new currencies, new economics and new modes of trade and transaction. Local and digital networks of citizens spawn alternative forms of action and coordination. People enthusiastically sign up to become 'world citizens', enabling greater freedom of movement internationally. New global cooperative structures own all new technology making it freely accessible to all. There is experimentation in globally connected micro-democracies (supra-state global parties vying in local elections). 'Wisdom of the masses' is the watchword; prediction markets have evolved to enable speedy decision-making in a complex world. The ability to influence people's behaviour and opinions is paramount.

