

Scenario 1

Multipolar state-led cooperation

- Several blocs of countries exerting influence, each with its own ideology and set of rules. In this decentralized approach to cooperation, traditional multilateral organizations have lost their clout.
- These new poles of cooperation introduce new sources of capital, opportunities, and mechanisms for influence, promising more inclusive and equitable governance and nation-to-nation dialogue.
- While this configuration holds potential, skeptics express concerns about further fragmentation, competition between blocs, and the duplication or undermining of efforts to reach consensus on shared issues and address global challenges collectively.



Scenario 2

Multi-stakeholder cooperation (non-state-led)

- The landscape of global development cooperation has evolved into a decentralized constellation where traditional state actors have made space for a broader array of stakeholders to share decision-making power.
- Emerging powers, regional organizations, civil society groups, and grassroots movements now play pivotal roles in addressing development challenges and investing in global public goods such as climate action and sustainable development.
- This shift promises a more inclusive and equitable governance model but also raises concerns about the effectiveness and motives of the new actors involved.



Scenario 3

Transactional scenarios (instability in a fractured world)

- The division between nations is entrenched with very limited global collaboration. Traditional global governance has weakened significantly, and transactional cooperation has become the norm with new alliances of convenience brokered between countries based on narrow interests.
- This shift away from multilateralism and cooperative frameworks exacerbates existing global challenges and creates new, complex crises that are increasingly difficult to manage.
- Competition for power, resources, and control intensifies, fueling further institutional mistrust, social polarization, political unrest, insecurity, with funds redirected towards mitigating unintended consequences and away from efforts at achieving sustainable development.

