

from: Negotiating our future: Living scenarios for Australia to 2050
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The preliminary narratives for the three scenarios are shown in Table 3.

Scenario	Narrative summary
Business as usual	
	<p>There is strong focus on economic growth, driven by resource exports and global trade, especially with China and India; biophysical limits are given secondary consideration. Two-speed economy intensifies, as does social inequality. High population growth continues, driven by immigration; this locks in a 4-degree world. Increasing natural disasters, urban degradation and infrastructure decline. There is intensified energy and resource nationalism, internal militaristic response (e.g. north-west Western Australia threatens to secede). Extremist politics start to dominate, foreign aid contracts, defence increases, there is a de facto alliance with China. Complexification increases, national resilience decreases but some local resilience increases. Coal is king, with coal and gas-to-liquids technology attempting to meet oil supply shortfalls, and intense conflict between coal seam gas and food supply needs.</p>
Muddling through	
	<p>Initially, there is partial acceptance of biophysical limits, including climate change, but short-termism dominates. By 2020, the ongoing intensification of extreme weather events convinces a frightened public and government to shift towards clean new world policies and technologies. Technological breakthroughs increase. Then, about 2030, a major catastrophe occurs in South Asia generating many new refugees; this is perceived in Australia as very threatening. While most clean new world policies continue, there is strong support to exclude refugees. Australia becomes more overtly nationalistic.</p>
Clean new world	
	<p>Strong global and national acceptance of biophysical limits accelerates energy transformation, urban redesign and quality public transport, enhancing energy security and decarbonisation. Greenhouse gas emissions peak by 2015, making it likely that the world's average temperature will not increase by more than 2 degrees, promoting health. Required speed of change demands new governance frameworks, to allow for emergency action. Attention is given to population policy, but disagreement continues. Reliance on China and India continues (but Asia also shifts to green technologies). There is increased global cooperation, especially around energy, climate and IT; military shifts towards peacekeeping and emergency relief. Rural decentralisation opens up agricultural and employment opportunities. Resilience increases, social and economic systems become more simplified. Per capita resource use is limited, contracting availability of consumer goods. Average wages fall.</p>

Table 3: Narrative summaries for the three 'climate change action' scenarios

https://18-science.cdn.aspedia.net/sites/default/files/user-content/resources/file/australia_2050_v1_ls_0.pdf