



Johannes Keizer, FAO of the United Nations

Libraries and Information Retrieval



...secure assumptions

- All relevant material for the work of FAO officers will be available on the Internet, (but not necessarily free)
- FAO “officers” will expect to get everything what they want directly on their desktops/laptops/PAs
- General purpose search engines like Google will continue to improve considerably



....no library anymore?

- technical officers will become much more aware of IT
- technical officers will believe to know where and how to find all relevant information
- they will mostly rely on some known and familiar information sources and beyond this general purpose search engines
- they will hire specific consultants for knowledge services
- they might oversee considerable parts of existing knowledge
-



..... an alternative

- The organization has knowledge and information management officers in all teams
- These officers will have technical knowledge in their subject discipline and knowledge in information and knowledge management
- they will also be highly IT aware
- Their specific work will be to discover, aggregate and rearrange knowledge in their subject area
- Role of the library will be coordination and support for these KIMOs
- The library as physical place becomes an exhibition centre cum caf'e



who is willing to invest?

