

B16 Human Influences on ecosystems

B16.2 Conservation

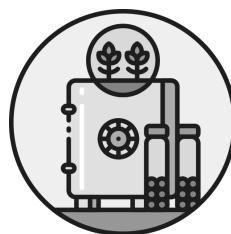
Why organisms become endangered or extinct

- **Climate change** – alters temperature and rainfall patterns; some species can't adapt fast enough.
- **Habitat destruction** – clearing land for housing, farming, or mining removes organisms' homes.
- **Hunting** – overhunting or poaching reduces population size (e.g. elephants for ivory).
- **Overharvesting** – taking too many plants or animals for food, medicine, or trade.
- **Pollution** – air, water, or soil pollution poisons organisms or damages habitats.
- **Introduced species** – non-native species outcompete, hunt, or spread disease to native species.



How endangered species can be conserved – LIMITED TO.....

- **Monitoring and protecting** – track populations; protect habitats with nature reserves and laws.
- **Education** – raise awareness to reduce hunting, pollution, and habitat loss.
- **Captive breeding programmes** – breed animals in zoos or sanctuaries, then release them to the wild.
- **Seed banks** – store seeds of rare plants for future growth and habitat restoration.



(For IGCSE stick to these 4 examples).