

# Conservation

Biology

In situ and ex situ approaches, and what each achieves.

## In situ — in place

- Nature reserves, national parks
- Habitat restoration
- Legal protection
- Preserves ecosystem interactions
- Cheaper per species

## Ex situ — off site

- Zoos, botanic gardens
- Seed banks, cryopreservation
- Captive breeding
- Last resort for critically endangered species
- Loses natural behaviour and selection

### THE DIFFERENCE THAT MATTERS

Ex situ is a holding action. Reintroduction requires the original habitat threat to have been addressed first.

The Svalbard Global Seed Vault holds over a million crop seed samples as a backup against loss elsewhere.