

The Humanitarian Crisis Unfolding Abroad

Famine. 20 million people now on the brink in Africa and the Middle East. We've got reporters on the frontlines.

Right now, today, the largest humanitarian crisis since World War II is unfolding from Yemen to Nigeria. 20 million people on the edge of famine. But most Americans don't know it. Three reporters from the Christian Science Monitor went to see the crisis first-hand. In Madagascar, Ethiopia and Somaliland. They join us. This hour On Point: Drought and hunger now in the Middle East and Africa. — Jane Clayson

From The Reading List

Christian Science Monitor: How a 20-million-person crisis goes unseen — “The world is facing its worst humanitarian crisis since World War II, with 20 million people on the brink of famine, and hardly anybody knows about it. Out of the media spotlight, the droughts and civil conflicts that are pushing the Horn of Africa, Yemen, and Nigeria into starvation are going unnoticed. And the humanitarian agencies trying to help are struggling to collect the money they need to help.”

Christian Science Monitor: Can famine be checked as Africa faces its worst crisis since the 1980s? — “From Madagascar to Ethiopia to Somalia and beyond, governments, international aid agencies, and the villagers they help are building up “community resilience.” That's the new buzzword in humanitarian circles: It is seen as key to ensuring that farmers and herders have something to hold onto when drought strikes, rather than cycling endlessly in and out of disaster.”

Christian Science Monitor: Amid persistent drought, a nation of herders plots a new course — “Still, unlike so many Somalis forced to roam in search of scarce fodder and water, Madar is staying put - a major goal for a region whose centuries-old pastoralist culture is, out of necessity, beginning to envision a more sustainable future. That means improving water and aid systems. But it could also mean deep changes to most Somalis' traditional way of life, shifting away from the nomadic patterns of camel- and livestock-herding to more stable - and

anchored - livelihoods.”

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