

COWHA is Africa's only private sector–driven Coalition, shaping policy, mobilizing investment, and driving systems change to transform women's and girls' health

1. Governance & Strategic Leadership

Organizational Establishment:

2022

COWHA conceptualized, establishing a vision to advance women's health across Africa



2022

Coalition officially launched in Johannesburg and Addis Ababa



2023

COWHA developed and adopted its Constitution / Articles of Association, referencing the MOA, and formalized core governance instruments including Board, Advisory Council, Secretariat, and TWG TOR, a Membership Policy, and a Financial Governance Framework



Board & Advisory Council:

Oversight Board established in 2023, expanded to six members in the 2024–2025 financial year, comprising Organon, BD, Hologic, AstraZeneca, Abbott, and MSD, with Africa Health Business (AHB) serving as the Secretariat



Mokgadi Mashishi
Country Lead: Africa Access Markets
Organon
(COWHA Chair)



Marloes Kibacha
Managing Director
AHB
(COWHA Secretariat)

The Advisory Council was established in 2024 and institutionalized in 2025, whose expertise strengthened the Coalition's strategic direction and technical guidance



Prof. Anne Kihara
Former President, The
International Federation of
Gynecology and Obstetrics (FIGO)



Dr. Githinji Gitahi
Group CEO,
AMREF Health Africa



Mrs. Clare Omatseye
Vice President, Africa
Healthcare Federation
(AHF)

Technical Working Groups (TWGs):

2023

TWG 1



Cancers
(breast and cervical cancer)

TWG 2



Sexual and Reproductive Health
(contraception and reduction of
unintended pregnancies)

2024

Revitalization



Cancers



Non-Communicable
Diseases



Sexual and
Reproductive
Health



Maternal and
Newborn Health

Leadership Transition



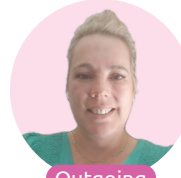
Outgoing

Dr. Gathari Ndirangu
Chief of Party
Jhpiego



Incoming

Dr. Evans Mathebula
Senior Regional Manager
Medical, Clinical and Scientific
Affairs in Africa
Abbott Rapid Diagnostics



Outgoing

Paula Nieuwoudt
Sales Manager
BD



Incoming

Jacqueline Karachi
Head of Sales, HID, EEMEA,
QIAGEN

Quarterly TWG sessions were institutionalized during 2024–2025 to ensure sustained member engagement and learning

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2. Research & Knowledge

Desk-based Research disseminated

Private Sector Engagement:

2023:

Working Paper
Private Sector Involvement in Women's Health in
Sub-Saharan Africa

Cervical Cancer & NCDs:

2024:

Prevention, Screening and Treatment of
Cervical Cancer in Sub-Saharan Africa

Adolescent & Maternal Health:

2025:

Sexual Reproductive Health: A Review of the
Contraceptive use and Postpartum Care for
Adolescents

Financing & Policy:

2025 :

Position Paper – Family Planning and
Reproductive Health at the Forefront:
An Urgent Call for Policy and Budget
Commitments to Secure Women's

Webinar Reports & Knowledge Dissemination

July 2024:

The Role of Partnerships in Driving Access to
Women's Reproductive Health Solutions in Africa

September 2024:

Family Planning: A Catalyst for Healthier
Communities

November 2024:

A Unified Approach – The Impact of Public-Private
Partnerships in Advancing Cancer Care in Sub-
Saharan Africa

May 2025:

Fund the Future – Driving Domestic Investment for
Women's Health Amidst Global Funding Shifts



Roundtable Reports

- May 2024 (Ghana): Eliminating and Treating Women’s Cancers in Sub-Saharan Africa
- July 2025 (Nigeria): Investing in Her Future – Sustainable and Innovative Financing for Women’s SRHR in a Changing Global Landscape
- December 2025 (Ghana): co-convened with MOH Ghana: From Policy to Progress – Advancing Women’s Cancer Elimination and Treatment



3. Advocacy & Policy Engagement

Event Category	Engagements
Global & Continental Policy Forums	World Health Assembly (WHA), African Union Health Ministers Conference, United National General Assembly (UNGA), WHO Regional Committee for Africa (WHO-AFRO), TICAD9 (Tokyo International Conference on African Development), G20 Social Summit, World Health Summit, World Bank Group–IMF Spring Meetings 2025
Women’s Health & SRHR Convenings	FIGO World Congress, UNFPA WomenX Collective Nairobi Hub Launch, FP2030 ESA Hub Sessions, Women Deliver Conference, Africa Women Summit (Nairobi), AHB-Africa Women’s Health Symposium (Accra), NXTher Summit (Nairobi), WHX Ghana (Accra)
Cancer & National Health Policy Platforms	National Cancer Control Program Kenya Stakeholders’ Forum (Nairobi), National Cancer Institute Kenya Summit (Nairobi), National Cancer Control Elimination Plan Launch (Nairobi, 2026)
Health Systems	International Conference on Public Health in Africa (CPHIA), International Conference on Primary Health Care (ICPHC), MOH Kenya Health Promotion Advisory Committee Meetings (HPAC), National Dissemination Forum – WRA, Nairobi Health Scientific Conference
Innovation & Private Sector Platforms	Africa Health ExCon, Africa Health Business Symposium (AHBS), Leadership Roundtable on Primary Healthcare Digitization (Addis Ababa), Africa Health Tech Summit
Multistakeholder & Community Leadership Engagements	Civil Society & Faith Leaders Engagements (WRA events, CEWAS Female Health & Hygiene), Diaspora Africa Conference (Nairobi), County First Ladies Association Strategic Plan Launch (Nairobi)

» **Outcomes:** By convening leaders from global forums to national ministries, we are transforming health policy into tangible action, building resilient systems, advancing women’s health, and ending the burden of cancer in Africa.

6. Key Outcomes

- Strong Governance Structures: Board, TWGs, Secretariat & Advisory Council
- High-impact research and publications informing policy and private sector engagement
- Engaged in 30+ National, continental, and global influence through summits, conferences, and roundtables
- Tangible community impact: 5,000+ women reached, improved HPV vaccination, screening, and maternal health interventions.
- Robust partnerships across Africa and international recognition for leadership in women’s health
- COWHA is part of the National Cancer Control Program (NCCP) Kenya TWG
- Ministry representation in COWHA TWGs



4. Community Engagement & Action

Education, Awareness & Community Outreach Vihiga County, Kenya (2025):
Reached 5,000+ women with education on SRH, cervical and breast cancer, contributing to increased screening and HPV vaccination in partnership with Cure Cervical Cancer



Blood Donation Drive – Pumwani Hospital, Kenya (2025):
Collected 40 pints of blood, with the potential to save up to 120 maternal lives in partnership with the Coalition of Blood for Africa



Adolescent & Family Planning Outreach – Nairobi, Kenya (2024–2025):
Delivered a storytelling series promoting reproductive health partnerships, family planning, cervical cancer screening, and adolescent contraceptive use



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5. Partnerships & Visibility



Membership & Networks:
By 2025, the Coalition expanded to 19 member and partner organizations, including Nigeria as a focus country for West African engagement



Communications:
Digital visibility increased in 2025 with 4,361 website visitors and 6,384 LinkedIn followers, amplifying research, advocacy, and community action.

- Roundtables, webinars, fireside chats and storytelling series highlighted gaps in cancer care, adolescent contraceptive use, and maternal mortality in SSA



Recognition:
Participation in FIGO, CPHIA, and other global conferences, with abstracts won and showcased, enhanced the Coalition’s credibility and visibility

Members

Strategic Partners

Technical Partner

