

4TH INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON PUBLIC HEALTH IN AFRICA (CPHIA)

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Today's launch of the **Africa Regional Advocacy Strategy for Maternal and Child Health** comes at a defining moment for Africa's health agenda.

Over the past two decades, our continent has made remarkable progress in reducing maternal and child deaths, yet that momentum has slowed—and in some places, **even reversed**.

This slowdown threatens the hard-won gains of the past 20 years and puts at risk our ability to meet our **Sustainable Development Goal** (SDG) commitments to Africa's mothers and children.

Forty-five African countries remain off track to meet SDG 3.2 targets to end preventable deaths among children under five. This is not just a statistic; it is **a call to action**—one that demands urgency, unity, and unwavering leadership.

At **Child Survival Action**, we believe survival is not just a health outcome—it is the foundation of Africa's development. Without healthy mothers and children, we cannot achieve the prosperity, equity, or resilience that our continent aspires to.

That is why we fully support this regional advocacy strategy and its priorities: strengthening political leadership and accountability, securing increased and innovative financing, and ensuring equitable access to life-saving innovations.

These priorities perfectly align with the work our members are driving every day:

- Engaging governments and African leaders to **reignite political will** and make child survival a political and financial priority.

- Mobilizing partners and civil society to **champion domestic investment** in maternal and child health.
- Amplifying community voices to **demand accountability and equity**, reminding us that every statistic represents a life, a story, a future.

As Child Survival Action, we stand ready to help implement this strategy.

We **reaffirm our commitment** to use evidence to drive action, to bring partners together to amplify our collective voice, and to hold leaders accountable for the promises made to mothers and children across Africa.

The message is simple and powerful: no mother should die giving life, and no child should die from a preventable cause. Together, we can make this the generation that ends preventable maternal and child deaths in Africa.

Thank you.

Courage Matiza

Market Access Africa

Child Survival Action

