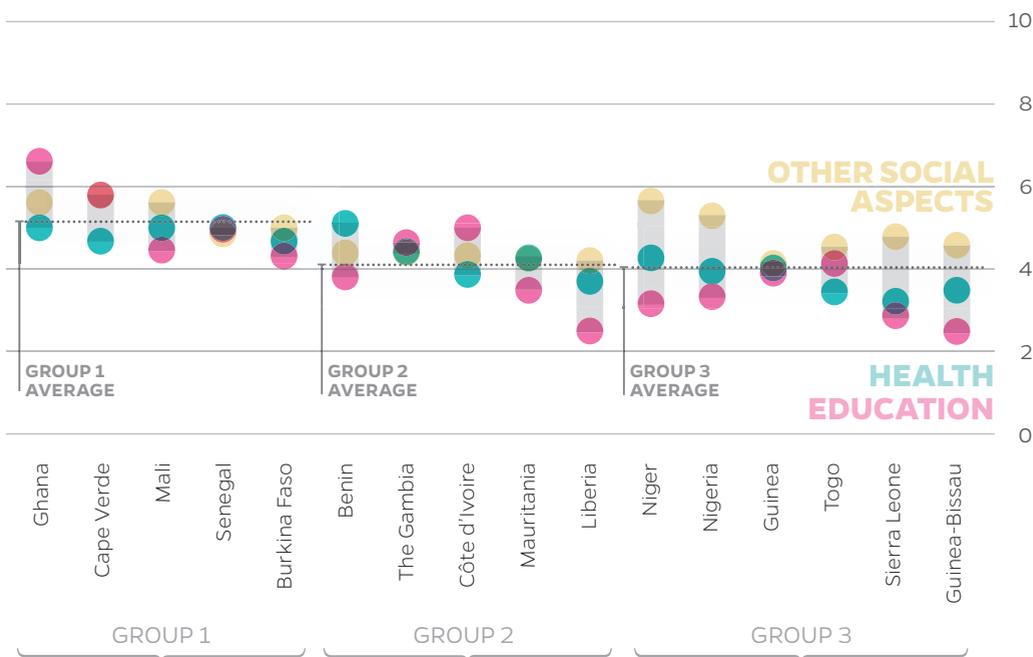




# STATE OF HEALTH, EDUCATION AND OTHER SOCIAL ASPECTS IN WEST AFRICAN COUNTRIES



countries in the region that are not classified as Least Developed countries according to the UNDP's World Development Report (2013). The rest of the region presents low levels of socioeconomic conditions overall, with 4 being the maximum score attained (indicating deficient conditions on the 0-10 range).

**THE WEST AFRICA** region presents the highest rates of gender inequality in the world, especially when measured in terms of school attendance rates and access. Gender inequality, particularly in terms of exposure to risk, is complex to capture. Women have more limited access to means of production, including credit, inputs like seeds, fertilizers, farming equipment and land. Land tenure systems also pose discrimination in relation to property rights. Poor rural women in West Africa and the Sahel normally undertake much more strenuous tasks and work for longer hours than men.