The project will examine in Upernavik the attitudes to the language situation and the language policy in Greenland: the views of the local situation, the knowledge about the general situation in Greenland, not least in Nuuk, and attitudes to it.

The method will be to make qualitative interviews with a sample of older school children, teachers, temporarily engaged teachers, staff of town hall, hunters, fishermen etc. - i.e. a sample chosen in a way that it is possible to carry out a parallel study in other towns and in Nuuk. Furthermore, - to the extent material exists - there will be some source studies of how attitudes have been in Upernavik in former times.

The tapes of the interviews will also be useful in a pilot project on Greenlandic spoken language. Studies of spoken language are going to be on the agenda in the years to come. None has been done so far, but Oqaasileriffik wants such investigations to be initiated very soon. Furthermore, concerning diachronic studies, some of the old minutes and reports from Upernativ in the archives shall be studied, because some of them might be rather close to spoken language and might give us some insight in the development of spoken Greenlandic language.

The project is planned to be part of a multi-year and multi-disciplinary research effort (The pernavik Project) into one well-defined region in Northwest Greenland: Upernavik municipality.