

## The conditions for everyday life

Only a few months ago, I moved to South Greenland. Still, my life here in Qaqortoq already has become everyday life. Every morning, I hurry down the mountain to my office in the municipal office.

In eight to nine hours I participate in the challenge to develop our large municipality. Large municipal or just a small municipality? In terms of area, we are a giant municipality. We manage an area larger than a country like Switzerland. But in terms of population, we are a small community with about 7,200 residents.

We devote ourselves to creating the best conditions for the citizens and the business of our municipality. The work is difficult. A geographically dispersed population with long distances between the individual settlements. A relatively low level of education in our population. A climate that often stops all modern transportation. The municipality is also located far from the most important market of the world, so trade with the outside world is difficult and costly.

I am lucky. I have good colleagues. I am responsible for many exciting projects. Actually I sometimes am feeling as a spoilt

child. In the evening I go to the supermarket and shop. Then I rush back to my little house on the mountain.

I have my own personal conditions. In these conditions the nature plays a crucial role. In everyday life, the nature provides a stunning coulisse to my life. In many ways it intervenes in my life. On the way to and from work I impressed again and again of the mountains, the sea and the light.

Often the nature ripples its muscles and makes all transportation difficult. Meetings that I should have had with partners is postponed or cancelled. The small helicopter transporting people to and from the town must often stay grounded. Humanity and its technology show its vulnerability: The helicopter has made a forced landing and a hunter disappear in the archipelago.

On weekends I try seriously to challenge the natural conditions. Here in February, even a little trip into the mountains close to the town is a major challenge for me. But the objective of my walk makes life worth living: After a small walk from my house, I have a panoramic view of a branch of the Igaliku Fiord.



*Northeastward of Qaqortoq, February 2014*