Syrians in
The Öresund Pilot Project

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17th June CMES
Lund University
The Öresund region

3.6 Million

Skåne

Copenhagen, Malmö

Denmark

Sweden
The Öresund region

• Cross-border integration
• To build an “Öresund identity” high on the political agenda
• Core around the Copenhagen – Malmö - Lund hub
• Technology hub with excellent innovation potential, world-class scientific infrastructure and a good environment for start-ups
Population density

Befolkningstäthet 2000
Invånare/km²

- Regiongräns
- Kommungräns

- > 1000
- 500 – 1000
- 100 – 500
- 50 – 100
- < 50

Hela Danmark: 124
Hela Sverige: 22
Autumn 2015
Autumn 2015
Objectives

• Journey and arrival experiences
• Establishing new lives in the Öresund
• Communal/transnational attachments
• Cultural expression in exile
• Community initiatives
Methodology

- Qualitative research methods
- Snowball non-probability sampling technique
- Semi-structured individual interviews (in Arabic)
- Tape recorded and video recordings
- Transcription Arabic to English
- Observation of Syrian-led initiatives
# Profile of Respondents

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Preliminary Observations

• Diverse journeys
  – Professional life prior to departure
  – Multiple transits
• Interactions with local institutions
  – Education
  – Employment
  – Migration board
  – Integration program
• Interactions with Danish and Swedish people
  – Building a community
Preliminary Observations

• Interactions with other Syrians
  – Mistrust and divisions
• Interactions with other non-Syrian Arab people
  – Generational conflict
  – competition
• Connection with family and the homeland
  – Fear and continuing oppression
• What constitutes being Syrian?
  – Longing for a lost homeland
• Role of cultural production
  – Healing