



State of Israel  
Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development

## M.K. Uri Ariel

Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development  
CV



### Personal background

Minister Uri Ariel was born (December 22, 1952) and lived for many years in Kibbutz Sde Eliyahu (affiliated with the Religious Kibbutz Movement, located in Beit Shean Valley).

He served in the Armored Reconnaissance Brigade of the IDF since 1971 and released from military service in 1975 as a Company Commander with the rank of Major.

He is married to Hagit and father to six children and grandfather to six grandchildren.

Mr. Uri Ariel and his wife were among the founders in 1977 of Kfar Edomim, a communal settlement located between Jerusalem and Jericho, where religious and secular members live alongside. They are still living there today.

### Public & Political Activity

Mr. Uri Ariel served in a various positions associated with land settlement, from 1989 to 1999, as follows:

- Activist for many years in "Amana"- the settlement arm of Gush Emunim movement - eventually attaining the position of its General Secretary
- Secretary General of the Judea and Samaria Council
- Head of the Land Settlement Department in the Ministry of Defense (about one year)



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- First Head of the Community Council of Beit El

He became member of the Knesset in September 2001, serving alternately in the following Knesset committees:

- Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee
- Finance Committee
- Interior Committee
- State Control Committee
- Education Committee
- Chairman of the Defense Budget Committee
- Member of the Judges Appointment Committee
- Chairman of the Rehabilitation of Gush Katif Evacuees Sub-Committee

Other public and Political activities Mr. Ariel has taken part in are:

- Member of the Judges Appointment Committee
- Chairman of the Lobby Group on behalf of the Gush Katif and Northern Samaria Evacuees
- Chairman of the Jerusalem Lobby Group
- Chairman of the Jonathan Pollard Lobby Group
- Member of the Land of Israel Lobby Group
- Member of the Agricultural lobby
- Numerous activities for the sake of the Judea and Samaria settlements, the dissemination of all religious education categories, and the preservation of all national lands under the sovereignty of the Jewish Community in Israel

Mr. Uri Ariel took up two Ministerial positions until now in the Israeli Government:

Minister of Construction and Housing 2013-2014

Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development from May 2015