

EPISODUL ENSO 1997–1998

I. HÂRJOABĂ

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THE 1997–1998 ENSO EPISODE. The first signs of a new warm ENSO episode appeared in the first semester of 1997, when strong western winds were recorded in the western sector of the equatorial Pacific. At the same time, in the same sector, a Kelvin wave moving eastwards occurred, and the ocean level oscillated, lifting up in the east, and lowering down in the west. The warm surface water in the equatorial Pacific moved towards the American shore, overheating and generating a new El Niño phenomenon. It gradually intensified, reaching maturity during the 1997/1998 boreal winter, and then losing intensity gradually until June 1998, when it was over. This episode is considered to be the strongest most representative of the 20th (twentieth) century. It caused, through teleconexions, significant perturbances of the world climate, generating important material and human loses.

Cuvinte cheie: Oscilația Australă – El Niño, Indice de Oscilație Australă, Circulație Walker, unde Kelvin, unde Rassby, teleconexiuni.