El Nino gets reinforced by cyclones

By Phoebe Sedgman, BloombergBusiness

The El Nino forming across the Pacific has been turbocharged by a series of tropical cyclones that helped to shift the direction of trade winds, potentially adding to warming that's evoking parallels with the record 1997-98 event.

Several cyclones, including a rare storm in the Southern Hemisphere this month, resulted in a strong reversal of trade winds near the equator, Australia's Bureau of Meteorology said on its website on Tuesday. That's set to increase temperatures below the surface, which then may raise sea-surface temperatures further in the coming months, it said in a fortnightly update.

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