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Nota di contenuto	Dedication; Contents; Presidential Foreword; ISO/TC 211 Foreword; GIS Foreword; Editors' Preface; Introduction to Spatial Metadata Standards in the world; An Introduction to Metadatafor Geographic Information; Introduction; History of metadata; Fundamentals of metadata; Minimal metadata set; Metadata query and distribution services; Experiences in the use of metadata; Regional and national efforts developing metadata; Summary and conclusions; Acknowledgements; References; Regional summaries of spatial metadata developments and associated activities European Efforts in the Field of Geographic Metadata and Related SDI ActivitiesIntroduction; European projects funded by the EU; National developments in the field of SDI in Europe; Summary and conclusions;

Acknowledgement; References; North American Metadata Standards Developments in Canada and the United States of America; Regional SDI activities; Overview of national metadata and SDI activities; National organisations for NSDI's in North America; Metadata activities in North America; North American geo-spatial metadata - Services/Query; Summary and conclusion; Acknowledgements; References

Metadata Standards Development Activities in the Asia - Pacific Region
 General regional structure for spatial data organisations; Identification of major national spatial data organisations; Identification of specific national/regional metadata standards development activities taking place; Description of metadata query/distribution services that are in operation or planned; Summary and conclusions with prognosis for the future; Acknowledgement; References; Metadata Standards Development Activities in Central and South America and the Caribbean
 General regional structure for spatial data organisations; Identification of major national spatial data organisations; Identification of specific national/regional metadata standards development activities taking place; Description of metadata query/distribution services that are planned or in operation; Summary and conclusions with prognosis for the future; List of contributors; References; Spatial Metadata in Africa and the Middle East; Introduction; General regional structure for spatial data organisation; African regions; Summary and conclusions; Acknowledgement; References

Global Spatial Metadata Activities in the ISO/TC211 Geographic Information Domain
 Introduction to ISO; ISO 19115, Metadata standard; Description of ISO 19115; Future development; Concluding remarks; References; Scientific and Technical characteristics for assessing metadata standards for geographic datasets; Introduction to the Scientific and Technical Characteristics for Assessing Metadata Standards for Geographic Datasets; Introduction; Terminology for Scientific and Technical Spatial Metadata Standards Characteristics
 Spatial Metadata Characteristics of the National and International Spatial Metadata Standards

Sommario/riassunto

This book represents years of work by the ICA Spatial Data Standards Commission during the 1995-2003 ICA cycles. It consists of an Introduction and six Regional Summary chapters that describe the spatial metadata activities happening in Europe, North America, Asia/Pacific, Latin America, Africa/Middle East, and the ISO community. These chapters provide the broader context and description of the milieu in which these standards operate, so that the reader can more easily understand the scientific and technical framework from whence a particular standard has emerged. The third section
