Table of Contents

vii *Foreword*
ix *Preface*
xi *Acknowledgments*

1 **CHAPTER 1** The Many Uses of GIS

2 ..... *Local government*
4 ..... *Utilities*
4 ..... *Transportation and logistics*
4 ..... *Business*
5 ..... *Natural resources*
5 ..... *Environmental hazards*
8 ..... *Security*
8 ..... *Education*
8 ..... *Conclusions*

9 **CHAPTER 2** How GIS Technology Works and Why We Need SDIs

11 ..... *Location, location, location*
13 ..... *Geographic information systems*
17 ..... *Spatial data infrastructures*
26 ..... *Conclusions*

27 **CHAPTER 3** Existing SDIs in Europe

35 ..... *Working from a shared vision: Northern Ireland's Geographic Information Strategy*
42 ..... *Forming coalitions to create data resources: The Dutch GBKN*
47 ..... *Facilitating access to data resources: Catalonia's IDEC*
51 ..... *Conclusions*

53 **CHAPTER 4** Developing a European SDI Strategy: The INSPIRE Initiative

54 ..... *Europe without borders*
60 ..... *INSPIRE*
82 ..... *Conclusions*

83 **CHAPTER 5** Prospects for the Future

84 ..... *Emerging trends*
86 ..... *Key strategic issues*
88 ..... *Networking, networking, networking*

89 *References*
93 *Abbreviations*