Curriculum choices

There is not enough consolidation or clarity on what programmes are of the requisite quality to have an impact. Here are some good questions to ask though before exploring the “world” of ed-tech:
1. Decide on what language you want your programme to be in. Note that there are very few programmes available in African languages.
2. Decide on what subjects you want to work with (e.g. Numeracy, Literacy or Geography).
3. Know what grades you want to work with and find out if the programme includes your grades. There are many programmes available for FET phase but not many for foundational phase (so if you are working in foundational phase this will narrow your choices).
4. Know whether you want your curriculum to be CAPS aligned or offer something different.
5. Do you want a programme that has a teaching component (e.g. videos, illustrations, alerts or explanation) and/or lessons?

For our maths programme, we settled on MathsBuddy (www.mathsbuddy.co.za) but we will soon be using NumberSense (http://numbersense.co.za/) for a couple of classes to try and test and control the impact of the programmes. There are others out there that may be more suitable to your needs e.g. Khan Academy, Reading Eggs, Nalibali, Govan Mbeki Maths and Science Development Programme, OLICO, IXL, African Storybook, Fast Academy (which includes a cool language tool from Aweza etc.).

- Estimated cost: R190/child/year