

American International University-Bangladesh (AIUB)

SDG Activity Report 2023

SDG 1: No Poverty

End poverty in all its forms everywhere



American International University-Bangladesh (AIUB) actively supports Sustainable Development Goal 1 by addressing poverty through various educational and community initiatives. AIUB provides financial aid to students from low-income families, ensuring access to higher education. Different study tours and involvement programs allow students to engage directly with impoverished communities, identifying economic challenges and proposing sustainable solutions.

The university also offers different capacity building activities, equipping students with entrepreneurial skills to foster economic growth. This aligns with SDG-1 by encouraging self-employment and financial sustainability. Moreover, AIUB organizes various seminars like “Business Process Outsourcing in the Age of 4IR”, which provides insights into career opportunities that combat poverty by promoting decent work.

Through its efforts, AIUB not only empowers its students but also contributes to poverty alleviation by supporting local enterprises and fostering community development. These initiatives demonstrate AIUB’s commitment to creating economic opportunities and ensuring inclusive education to uplift marginalized groups, directly addressing poverty in line with SDG-1.

#AIUB #SDG1 #NoPoverty #CommunityDevelopment

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University Activities towards SDG 1

Study tour of Economics Department to Rupganj for surveying the economic condition and challenges of the local residents.

The Department of Economics of the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences (FASS), AIUB organized a study tour for the students on February 23, 2023, to Rupganj, Bangladesh. The tour was to explore the current socioeconomic challenges and the way forward for the sustainable economic development of the visited locality. During the study tour, the students conducted interviews and surveyed the economic condition and challenges of the local residents.

Students have identified problems like poverty, unemployment, and limited access to capital faced by those in that area. They have also learned about the prevalence of microcredit facilities to increase access to capital for income-generating activities of the local residents. The students also engaged in different team-building activities (games) to develop better teamwork and enhance their communication skills. Overall, the study tour has been educational for the department's students to learn more about the social and economic situation in Rupganj, Bangladesh.

<https://www.aiub.edu/study-tour-of-economics-department>



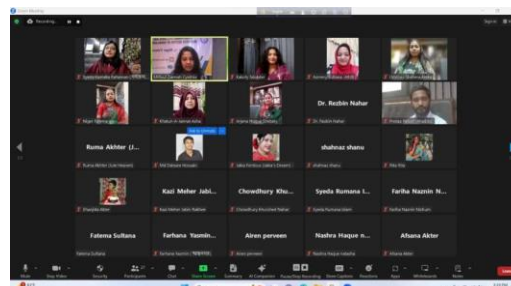
Workshop on “Prospects of the local products for Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises in Bangladesh”

A two-day workshop titled, “Prospects of the local products for Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises in Bangladesh” organized by the Department of Management Information Systems (MIS) and Department of Management & HRM, FBA, in collaboration with E-Commerce Development Centre. The event incorporated six sessions and took place on December 3 – 4, 2023 via MS Teams platform. The workshop adheres with the goal of SDG achievement of AIUB as the event represents “Decent Work and Economic Growth for everyone” (SDG-8), “Eliminating Poverty” (SDG-1) and “Quality Education” (SDG-4) As resource person, Mr. Razib Ahmed, Advisor, E-Commerce Development Centre (EDC), & Founding President, E-Commerce Association of Bangladesh, and Ms. Niger Fatema, Vice President, E-Commerce Development Centre and Owner, Aria’s Collection, were invited to the program to share their valuable thoughts and guidance among the students of BBA program. As special guest, Mr. Razib Ahmed, and Ms. Kakoly Talokder introduced AIUB students with e-commerce sector of Bangladesh. Niger Fatema was the designer of the Local Products Syllabus of Bangladesh as well as the main organizer of the event on behalf of the EDC.

The main purpose of the workshop was to introduce the students with the local product of Bangladesh and the ways they can conduct business for their better career. The workshop helped the students to understand the opportunities and challenges of the e-commerce sector of Bangladesh. Throughout the workshop several topics related to Weaving factory/Textile Industries, Fisheries and animal resource, Handmade local jewelry, Agriculture Food Crops, Agriculture Cash Crops, Food/Homemade Food were discussed. Students experienced the journeys of the entrepreneurs, as well as their success story throughout the program. Dr. Rezbin Nahar, Director, Undergraduate Program, Faculty of Business Administration, AIUB, delivered a vote of thanks to the resource persons and the participants. She outlined the importance of such workshops for our students to make better decisions towards their entrepreneurship journeys. In his closing remarks, Mr. Mehzabul Hoque Nahid, Head, Department of MIS, applauded the digitization efforts of micro, small, and medium-sized enterprises, who are engaged in developing locally procured products. In addition, he praised the ‘E-Commerce Development Centre’ for their dedication to provide educational materials for those involved in promoting Quality Education (SDG 4) that will assist aspiring small and micro entrepreneurs, with limited resources and confined opportunities. He also expressed appreciation to Ms. Kakoly Talokder, President, E-Commerce Development Centre, and all the organizers for their invaluable counsel for this outstanding initiative. A number of students form BBA Program of American International University Bangladesh (AIUB) were the participants of this workshop. Throughout the whole workshop the trainers; Ummay Shahera Anika, Sirajum Munira, Syeda Kamalia Rahaman, Arjena Hoque Shabaty, Palash Chandra Shil had taken session on e-commerce and local products of Bangladesh. Md. Daloare Hossain maintained the technical part and Miftaul Zannati Cynthia hosted the program from EDC. Around 50 entrepreneurs shared their journey briefly with the participants. The entire event was coordinated and moderated by Ms. Azmery Sultana, Lecturer, Department of MIS.

Dr. Md. Aftab Anwar, Head, Department of Management & HRM, FBA, along with other faculty members, Ms. Nazia Farhana, Mr. Jubayer Suhan, Ms. Tamanna Nazneen Rahman, and Dr. Mohammad Sirajul Islam attended the event. The immense support from AIUB management and Administration made the event a success.

<https://www.aiub.edu/workshop-on-prospects-of-the-local-products-for-micro-small--medium-enterprises-in-bangladesh>



Seminar on "Business Process Outsourcing (BPO) in the Age of 4IR Technology"

The Department of Management Information System (MIS), American International University – Bangladesh (AIUB) held a seminar titled "Business Process Outsourcing (BPO) in the Age of 4IR Technology" on October 1, 2023. The seminar aimed to offer insights into career prospects in the field of management information systems both in Bangladesh and globally. It also sought to align with Sustainable Development Goals, particularly No Poverty (SDG 1) and Industry, Innovation, and Infrastructure (SDG 9).

Mr. Mehزابul H. Nahid, Head of the Department of MIS at AIUB, delivered the welcome address and presided over the event. Mr. AEM Kawsarunnabi Talukder, Chief Strategy Officer at BMIT Solutions Limited, was the distinguished guest of the seminar. In his presentation, he delved into the components of 4IR technology and its relevance in Bangladesh. He shared insights into the vision of achieving a digital Bangladesh by 2041 and the potential avenues for its implementation. Additionally, he discussed the journey of BMIT Solutions Ltd. and highlighted career and growth opportunities in both the national and international freelancing markets.

Furthermore, Mr. Talukder provided valuable information about the freelancing marketplace, covering diverse work categories such as Design & Multimedia, Digital Marketing, Web Design & Development, IT & Programming, Writing & Translation, Admin & Data Entry, Engineering & Manufacture, Finance & Management, Legal, and more. He shed light on government initiatives, including the Learning & Earning Development Project (LEDP), aimed at creating employment opportunities for youth to kickstart and advance their careers. The government also offers training programs like "Fundamentals of BPO" and "Business Process Outsourcing" to educate youth about outsourcing and how to establish profitable BPO ventures. These courses offer valuable training and skill-building opportunities for young individuals interested in delving into the world of BPO.

Mr. Talukder also discussed government-backed community support programs designed to create employment opportunities and promote economic growth within communities. He outlined the prerequisites for becoming a successful freelancer and provided guidance on initiating a freelancing career.

Following the keynote presentation, Dr. Rezbin Nahar, Associate Professor and Director of the Undergraduate Program (BBA) at FBA, delivered closing remarks and distributed gift bags to attendees. The Faculty of Business Administration (FBA) expressed its gratitude for the generous support from the AIUB administration.

The seminar received participation from several FBA faculty members, including Ms. Shahnaz Zarin Haque, Mr. AKM Kamrul Haque, Mr. Jubayer Suhan, Dr. Md. Tamzidul Islam, Ms. Sazia Afrin, Ms. Saeeda Tajrian, and Ms. Amenda Philomina Purification. The event was organized by Mohammad Baijed, a lecturer in the Department of MIS.

<https://www.aiub.edu/seminar-on-business-process-outsourcing-bpo-in-the-age-of-4ir-technology>



Seminar on Entrepreneurship, Risk Optimization, Planning, Digitization and Execution for Starting a New Business

On October 17, 2023, the Department of Management Information Systems (MIS), Faculty of Business Administration (FBA) organized a seminar entitled “Entrepreneurship, Risk Optimization, Planning, Digitization and Execution for Starting a New Business”. The objective of the seminar was to enlighten prospective BBA graduates about the complexities of entrepreneurship, the benefits that await those who persevere, and how to achieve entrepreneurial success in Bangladesh and internationally, in line with the Sustainable Development Goal of Zero Poverty (SDG 1), Industry, Innovation, and Infrastructure (SDG 9) and Sustainable Cities and Communities (SDG 11). Successful alumni of AIUB, Ms. Nasrina Bari (CEO, Be Global) was the resource person on this occasion. At the beginning, Dr. Rezbin Nahar (Director, BBA Program), on behalf of AIUB, expressed sincere gratitude to the guest for taking out time from their busy schedule to come and address some of the current students of their alma mater. She also shared her opinion regarding the importance of understanding the challenges of entrepreneurship and understanding the risk mitigation strategies in undergraduate academic curriculum. The program started off with our alumni Ms. Nasrina Bari who shared her career journey. She explained how Entrepreneurship is the act of starting and managing a business venture to make a profit which involves taking calculated risks, being innovative, and combining resources, skills, and vision to bring forth new products, services, or solutions that meet market demands and create value. She also gave the audience tips on Selecting a service or product, developing a sales strategy, Establishing starting funds, Cash flow management, time constraints, Lack of technical expertise and Work-life balance issues. She also shares her insights on how to deal with Self-doubt and Procrastination. She also put lots of emphasis on digitization of business and acquiring digital skills. Because they can help entrepreneurs to access information and resources, reinvent traditional business practices, boost entrepreneurial activity, identify and exploit opportunities, and empower entrepreneurship for impact. Lastly, Mr. Danilo G Morgia (Director, IT Operations, AIUB) delivered the vote of thanks and concluding remarks. The program was hosted by Mr. Mehzabul Hoque Nahid, Head of the Dept. of MIS. In his closing remarks urged students and educators to take consider entrepreneurship more seriously in academia because it can have a significant impact on the economy of a country by creating new jobs, increasing competition and productivity, creating new businesses and markets, adding to the national income, promoting innovation, expanding international trade, making the economy more resilient, reducing poverty, and improving the standard of living. Esteemed faculty members of FBA present on the occasion were Mr. Jubayer Suhan, Mr. Mohammad Baijed, Dr. Mohammad Sirajul Islam, Ms. Azmery Sultana and Ms. Tamanna Nazneen Rahman. In conclusion, the seminar offered BBA students an invaluable opportunity to acquire critical insights regarding the ways in which entrepreneurs must proactively prepare for and anticipate these challenges, prioritize self-care and networking, and cultivate a positive mindset throughout their journey.

<https://www.aiub.edu/seminar-on-entrepreneurship-risk-optimization-planning-digitization-and-execution-for-starting-a-new-business>



Dr. Anwarul Abedin Lecture Series on “Revenue for Development”

The Faculty of Business Administration (FBA) at American International University-Bangladesh (AIUB) hosted a seminar titled "Revenue for development" as part of the esteemed "Dr. Anwarul Abedin Lecture Series." The seminar featured Mr. Abu Hena Md. Rahmatul Muneem, a distinguished speaker who holds the positions of Senior Secretary at the Internal Resources Division (IRD) and Chairman of the National Board of Revenue at the Bangladesh Ministry of Finance. The event took place on December 12, 2023 (Tuesday) in the AIUB Auditorium. The session aimed to educate the audience on the significance of tax income and economic development. Prof. Dr. ABM Siddique Hossain, the Professor and Dean of the Faculty of Engineering at AIUB, commenced the seminar by delivering a welcome speech in which he underscored the imperative of enhancing the development of the National Board of Revenue to foster greater success for our nation. Subsequently, Ms. Nazia Farhana, the Program emcee, delivered a concise introduction to the keynote speaker, Mr. Abu Hena Md. Rahmatul Muneem. The speaker initiated the discussion by providing an overview of Bangladesh's status in terms of tax collecting. He emphasized the importance of paying taxes and discussed the efficient steps implemented to generate cash for development. In addition, he highlighted the utilization of technology and various efforts implemented to streamline tax collection. He emphasized the importance of lowering costly imports and promoting the growth of exports to establish a self-sufficient Bangladesh. Subsequently, a brief question and answer session was conducted for the participants. Professor Dr. Md. Abdur Rahman, the Pro Vice-Chancellor of AIUB, concluded the event by expressing gratitude to the keynote speaker for his enlightening presentation. Finally, Prof. Dr. Md. Abdur Rahman (Pro Vice-Chancellor, AIUB), Prof. Dr. ABM Siddique Hossain (Dean, Faculty of Engineering, AIUB), Prof. Dr. Tazul Islam (Dean, Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences), and Prof. Dr. Farheen Hassan (Associate Dean, Faculty of Business Administration) awarded a token of appreciation to the esteemed keynote speaker Mr. Abu Hena Md. Rahmatul Muneem and other delegates from NBR. The event was coordinated by Ms. Bohi Shajahan, the Head of the Department of Finance, in cooperation with the Associate Dean and Directors from the Faculty of Business Administration. The Faculty of Business Administration expresses its gratitude to Mr. Khondaker Sabbir Mohd. Kabir, Director, Accounts & Audit, for his tremendous assistance, as well as to the office of student affairs, to the AIUB management and all others for their invaluable cooperation in ensuring the success of the event.

<https://www.aiub.edu/dr-anwarul-abedin-lecture-series-on-revenue-for-development>



AIUB organized Seminar on Agriculture and its Prospects for Sustainable Development in Bangladesh

The Department of Economics within the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences at the American International University-Bangladesh (AIUB) hosted a seminar titled "Agriculture and its prospects in Sustainable Development in Bangladesh." This event took place on Monday, August 14, 2023, in the AIUB Auditorium. The seminar was conducted as part of the esteemed "Dr. Anwarul Abedin Lecture Series," which aims to foster student engagement by facilitating interaction with experts in specific fields, thus enriching the pursuit of factual and meaningful education.

The seminar was honored by the presence of Mr. Ishtiaque Abedin, Founder Member and Chairman of the Board of Trustees at the American International University-Bangladesh (AIUB), who served as the special guest for the occasion. The distinguished Keynote Speaker for the seminar was Mr. Shykh Seraj, Director and Head of News at Channel i, as well as an agricultural activist in Bangladesh. During his keynote speech, Mr. Seraj provided insights into the evolution of the agricultural sector in Bangladesh since its independence. He emphasized the significance of agriculture in sustaining people's livelihoods, generating employment opportunities, and contributing to the nation's GDP. Mr. Seraj highlighted that the economy is driven by three key sectors: agriculture, ready-made garments (RMG), and remittances. He emphasized that the offspring of farmers play vital roles in these sectors, sending earnings back to their rural families. This financial support, often invested in farming initiatives, has not only bolstered the economy but also empowered youth, particularly women. Mr. Seraj also touched upon the emergence of agricultural tourism and addressed the challenges posed by climate change. He stressed the importance of integrating new agricultural technologies to adapt to changing conditions and facilitate sustainable development. Following Mr. Seraj's keynote speech, an interactive discussion session was held, allowing students and faculty members to engage with the guest speaker. Mr. Ishtiaque Abedin, Founder Member and Chairman of the Board of Trustees at AIUB, emphasized the necessity of modernizing agricultural practices through cutting-edge technology to address current socio-economic challenges. He underscored the importance of exploring viable pathways for sustainable development in Bangladesh. Mr. Abedin expressed his gratitude for Mr. Shykh Seraj's presence and contributions as the keynote speaker, concluding with appreciation for the enthusiastic audience. A token of appreciation, along with a crest, was presented to Mr. Seraj by the Chairman of the Board of Trustees at AIUB.

<https://www.aiub.edu/aiub-organized-seminar-on-agriculture-and-its-prospects-for-sustainable-development-in-bangladesh>



FBA organized Workshop on Individual Tax Calculations, Reconciliation & Return Preparation

The Department of Accounting, Faculty of Business Administration organized a workshop on Individual Tax Calculations, Reconciliation & Return Preparation in the media studio [Annex 2] from 11.00 am to 1.00 pm in August 10, 2023. The workshop was exclusively arranged for the students of Principles and Practices of Taxation course.

The key speaker was H M Mainuddin Ahammed FCMA, Chief Executive at LSF & Company, A management consulting firm working for Business Process Development, Tax & VAT Management, Financial Advisory, Offshore Funding, to numerous satisfied corporations, and high net worth individuals, and ERP Implementation (SAP) as well as a consultant at TaxBondu. He shared different heads of income, different laws of Income Tax Act 2023 and discussed an overview of new return format. Then he discussed how to fill up the form, different schedules and workings in MS Excel towards students. It was an interactive session and students actively participated in this session. Other faculty members of accounting were also present. The objective of this workshop is harmoniously aligned with the Sustainable Development Goal of ensuring quality education (SDG 4).

The workshop was arranged by Niaz Mohammad ACMA, Assistant Professor, Department of Accounting. Dr. Kamrul Hasan, Associate Professor and Head Accounting gave the welcome speech. At the end of the session, Dr. Rezbin Nahar, Director Undergraduate Program (BBA) and Dr. Mohammad Faridul Alam, Director [MBA and EMBA] gave a vote of thanks and provide a certificate as well as token gift to key speaker. The Accounting department appreciates the openhanded support extended by the AIUB management.

<https://www.aiub.edu/fba-organized-workshop-on-individual-tax-calculations-reconciliation--return-preparation>



Seminar on “Smart Bangladesh Vision 2041: The Relevance of Bangabandhu's Dream”

On March 15, 2023, AIUB hosted a seminar titled "Smart Bangladesh Vision 2041: The Relevance of Bangabandhu's Dream" with the keynote paper titled "Vision Smart Bangladesh: The Relevance of Bangabandhu's Dream." It was held in honor of Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman's birthday on March 17 and considering the transformation of Bangladesh's vision to "Smart Bangladesh" based on the success of the vision "Digital Bangladesh." The keynote speaker, Dr. Mohammad Rafiqul Islam Talukdar, Professor of the Faculty of Business Administration, AIUB, mentioned that the bold slogan of Vision 2041, "Smart Bangladesh", emerged from the accomplishment of Bangladesh's Vision 2021 and the mantra of digitalization along with advanced technology-inclusive development. It is also catalyzed by the global paradigm shift in the convergence of governance and development focused on impact leadership, sustainable development, a knowledge-based society, and the evolving concepts of "smart cities" and the "smart world." He further emphasized that the drive towards Vision 2041 aspires to realize the striving approach to accomplish the 2030 Sustainable Development Goals and make Bangladesh a high-income country and a prosperous nation by 2041. The Smart Bangladesh Vision 2041 is more comprehensive, goal-driven, inclusive, and effective than the Digital Bangladesh Vision 2021. The key player in achieving the vision of "Smart Bangladesh" is the young generation of Bangladesh. The ultimate objective of smart Bangladesh is to achieve Bangabandhu's dream of a Golden Bengal in a smart way in a smart world. It is founded on the four pillars of a smart state: "smart citizens," "smart government," "smart economy," and "smart society." It aims to foster the inclusivity of all people in Bangladesh in this smart endeavor to ensure a decent standard of living for everyone while striving to ensure a prosperous country with a lower Gini coefficient. Pointing to the relevance of Bangabandhu's Dream, the keynote speaker refers to the essay of Honorable Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, "Striving to Realize the Ideals of My Father." "It is the indomitable spirit of Sheikh Mujibur Rahman that drives us forward, and we dare not rest till we achieve all his dreams," Sheikh Hasina writes in the conclusion of her scholarly writeup, published by MIT Press Direct in its ranked journal "Innovations: Technology, Governance, Globalization" in 2021. Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, the daughter of Bangabandhu, highlights in her 2021 article the specifics of transforming Bangladesh into a sustainable and developed country. She emphasizes how digitalization liberates people from the chains of illiteracy, poverty, corruption, dictatorship, terrorism, and extremism; how it helps realize Bangabandhu's ideals by meeting the people's seven basic needs; and how the nation could develop to a smart level that can guarantee a decent standard of living for everyone. The lead discussant, Professor Dr. Jebunnessa, Department of Public Administration, Jahangir Nagar University, appreciates the paper and emphasizes the need for conducting more quality research on Bangabandhu like this one. She felt that Bangabandhu's dream is highly relevant to the vision of "Smart Bangladesh" in a smart world. Thus, she thanked Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, the daughter of the father of the nation, Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, for keeping such an ambitious vision moving forward in a timely manner. The chief guest, O. N. Siddiqua Khanam, Member, the Bangladesh Public Service Commission and Former Secretary of the Bangladesh Government, however, regretted not attending the seminar due to chairing an enviable viva board. With a vote of thanks, the chair of the seminar, Prof. Dr. Md. Abdur Rahman, Pro-Vice Chancellor of AIUB, expressed gratitude to the keynote speaker, discussants, and houseful audience, including faculty members and young students, at the AIUB auditorium. With reference to the keynote speaker's discussion question, he explicitly draws attention to the young generation and mentions, "Our generation built digital Bangladesh. And now it's your (the young generation's) turn to transform it into a smart Bangladesh using the digital Bangladesh platform."

<https://www.aiub.edu/seminar-on-smart-bangladesh-vision-2041-the-relevance-of-bangabandhus-dream->



Faculty Research and Publications on SDG 1

Application of Stochastic Programming in Agricultural and Newsvendor Problems and It's Application in Real Life

AFSANA AKTER MITU et el.

The study of making the best decision under risk management in a variety of areas of our lives is known as Stochastic Programming. We will go through two-stage Stochastic Linear Programming approaches for a variety of real-world choice issues, as well as how to solve them. We will achieve this by constructing stochastic linear programming models based on real-world situations like the well-known Farmer's situation and News Vendors problems. The influence of pricing, Stochastic Integer Linear Programming problem, second stage Stochastic Integer Linear Programming problem, first stage Stochastic Binary Linear Programming problem, risk aversion problem, and continuous function for random variables based on two-stage SLP with the aid of Farmer's problem will all be examined. We will address the Newsvendor's problem with Deterministic Equivalent Stochastic Linear Programming, an extension of Deterministic Stochastic Linear Programming for risk aversion with a high number of decision variables and restrictions, utilizing the two-stage Stochastic Linear Programming approach once more. Hand calculation is a challenging way to acquire the solution to the problems. As a result, we will use the programming language AMPL to design computer solutions for tackling both farmer and newsvendor difficulties. We will also utilize MATLAB to create graphs for the farmer's problem's continuous function.

<https://journals.du.ac.bd/index.php/dujs/article/view/32>

Enhancing DDoS Attack Detection Using Machine Learning: A Framework with Feature Selection and Comparative Analysis of Algorithms

RIFAT AL MAMUN RUDRO et el.

Distributed Denial of Service (DDoS) attacks are an ever-present threat to network security and can make online services hard for users to access. Conventional detection methods often struggle to effectively counter new and sophisticated DDoS attacks. This research article aims to assess the effectiveness of several machine learning methods in detecting distributed denial-of-service (DDoS) attacks. The evaluation is conducted using the DDOS attack SDN dataset, which is sourced from Google's research dataset. Various algorithms, including Random Forest, Decision Tree, Naive Bayes, and Support Vector Machine (SVM), are used for the purpose of analyzing network traffic data and detecting abnormal patterns

that may indicate DDoS attacks. Results indicate that the Random Forest algorithm achieves the highest accuracy rate of 99.4% in detecting DDoS attacks. Additionally, the Decision Tree and SVM algorithms perform admirably, achieving accuracy rates of 98.8% and 98.4%, respectively. This research underscores the potential of machine learning algorithms in detecting and mitigating DDoS attacks. It emphasizes the necessity of employing advanced techniques for robust cyber threat defense and offers valuable insights into the performance of different machine learning algorithms in the context of DDoS attack detection.

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